



International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

CIGR

*Newsletter
Quarterly*

**Newsletter No. 106
March 2016**

*Since 1930
86 Years of CIGR*

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Commission Internationale du Génie Rural (CIGR)

CIGR Website: <http://www.cigr.org/>

1. CIGR NEWS

Message from the President

CIGR is a professional association of agricultural engineers from 96 countries. In the mission of our association (por. www.cigr.org) we stress that we are a non-political and non-governmental organisation. In this message from the President of CIGR, I would like to present a few thoughts which are – whether you like it or not – linked to politics. I implore the reader of this text to believe that any association with politics that might be found here are incidental, and it was not the author's intention to sound political.



Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski

Let us begin from formulating several questions, repeatedly posed by politicians and journalists, as well by us: agricultural engineers:

Why, despite our comprehensive knowledge, so many people throughout the world suffer from hunger (whilst – at the same time – so much food is thrown out on waste landfills)?

Why in so many regions of the world (also in highly developed countries) farmers are not certain of their future, and agricultural policy decisions provoke their protests?

Why is the financial profit considered to be the chief criterion of assessment of almost any activity (also in engineering)?

If we view the agriculture in a wider perspective than only considering engineering issues, much more similar questions can be asked. The lack of answers to such question can be frustrating: Here we are – the engineers – who possess the knowledge and technical potential to solve almost any problem in construction or operation, but these qualities cannot enable us to solve the problems formulated in aforementioned questions. Perhaps, we need real co-operation with politicians, investors, financiers etc. to solve these problems?

When looking for the answers to these questions, it seems to me a reasons for contemporary global problems lies in deficiencies of education. It pertains particularly to the university and engineering education. The knowledge and professional competences to be acquired by a university graduate is now so voluminous that only little time is left for students to discuss with their professors life in general, and in particular the life in its philosophical perspective. The universities release splendidly professionally equipped engineers, physicians, architects etc., but they are somewhat helpless when asked – for example – about the sense of life in general, and the sense of professional life in particular. How many of university graduates ponder over social consequences of their professional, engineering decisions?

Fyodor Dostoyevsky wrote a novel which belongs to the canons of world literature. It is entitled Crime and Punishment. In paraphrasing the title of this novel, we can ask ourselves: what kind of error do we commit in the academic education of engineers to be “punished” in the form of unsolved – and increasingly numerous – problems of the contemporary world

(both locally or globally)? Do the shortcomings of present education represent the principal cause of these problems, or rather only one of many causes?

I think that it would not be detrimental to the apolitical mission of our organisation to discuss – during scientific conferences and other professional meetings of agricultural engineers – the issues of our work also in a wider, philosophical perspective.

*Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski
President of CIGR*

Message and announcements from the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, the CIGR has seven Technical Sections (TS) and eleven Working Groups (WG). They deal with very important scientific and technological activities of CIGR. The activities of TSs and WGs are regularly reported in the CIGR Newsletters for your information. The TSs hold original Symposia and Meetings almost every year and often co-sponsor the conferences held by the national societies.



Prof. Mikio Umeda

I have worked at the Technical Section IV (Energy in Agriculture) for the past 20 years and had closely worked with the late Prof. Zoltan Sibalsky from Hungary and many other friends. He was an excellent leader of the TS IV and very much devoted to promote the symposia. He was always very eager to invite the section members and was very active in the meetings. In response to his eagerness, I attended his symposia very often, although it was not easy for me to manage time and financial matters. As a result, I was able to meet many new friends, including Prof. Kamaruddin Abdullah from Indonesia, Prof. Janusz Piechocki from Poland and Prof. R. Cengiz Akdeniz from Turkey. They are currently providing with me valuable support in my present activities as SG of CIGR.

Unfortunately the WGs are engaged in fewer activities in comparison with those of TSs, nevertheless the roles of WGs are even more important. I understand that it is not easy for young members to regularly attend the international meetings due to time and financial constraints. But with the internet, it is much easier for us to communicate and exchange ideas and opinions through e-mail or Skype.

I would like to strongly recommend that WG members should attend the CIGR Congress and Conference every two years. After the attendance you are easily able to communicate using possible means like Skype. The TS and WS meetings are always open to you and others who are interested to attend their meetings.

Best regards

*Prof. Mikio Umeda
Secretary General of CIGR*

Current Status of International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE)

As reported previously, the proposal for forming the International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE) was presented to the CIGR Presidium and then approved by the 68th Executive Board Meeting of CIGR on 3 September 2013 during the 5th International Conference on Trends in Agricultural Engineering in Prague, Czech Republic. The proposal was rectified by the 53rd General Assembly of CIGR on 17 September 2014 during the 18th World Congress of CIGR held in Beijing, China, concluding the legal procedure requirement for the formation of iAABE.



Prof. Da-Wen Sun

The Academy acts in an advisory capacity to CIGR, and its main purpose is to identify and recognise individuals distinguished by their scientific and professional contributions to agricultural and biosystems engineering. Other purposes of the Academy include fostering international cooperation and exchange of information, promoting agricultural and biosystems engineering and other sciences and technology of importance for this area, and stimulating international education and training in agricultural and biosystems engineering. There are 33 founding Fellows of iAABE, which are listed below in alphabetical order:

Kamaruddin Abdullah (Indonesia)
 Hermann Auernhammer (Germany)
 Fred W. Bakker-Arkema (USA)
 El Houssine Bartali (Morocco)
 Egil Berge (Norway)
 El Hassan Bourarach (Morocco)
 William Chancellor (USA)
 Jan Daelemans (Belgium)
 Irenilza de Alencar Nääs (Brazil)
 Josse De Baerdemaeker (Belgium)
 Hermann J. Heege (Germany)
 Makoto Hoki (Japan)
 Tadeusz Juliszewski (Poland)
 Yoshisuke Kishida (Japan)
 Osamu Kitani (Japan)
 Shujun Li (China)
 Oleg Marchenko (Russia)
 Paul McNulty (Ireland)
 Axel Munack (Germany)

André Musy (Switzerland)
 Jaime Ortiz-Cañavate (Spain)
 George Papadakis (Greece)
 Søren Pedersen (Denmark)
 Luis Santos Pereira (Portugal)
 Vilas M. Salokhe (India)
 Yohei Sato (Japan)
 Gajendra Singh (India)
 Jean-Claude Souty (France)
 Bill Stout (USA)
 Da-Wen Sun (Ireland)
 Hubert N. van Lier (Netherlands)
 Maohua Wang (China)
 Fedro R. Zazueta (USA)

The Statutes for iAABE was presented to the Fellows for comments on 24 February 2015, and was subsequently approved unanimously in April. The Statutes for iAABE can be accessed at: <http://cigr.org/Governance/academy.php>

A few version of the Academy logo was designed in April 2015, and circulated to the Fellows for discussion. After very detailed discussion among the Fellows, three images of the logo were presented to the Fellows for voting on 30 June 2015, and based on simple majority vote, the following logo was adopted in September as the logo of iAABE:



In addition, all the CVs of the Fellows are now available at <http://cigr.org/Governance/academy.php> except four fellows. It is hoped that short CVs for all fellows will be available at the Academy website.

Finally, the election to the Council of iAABE is on-going, the Council should be fully operational from 1 January 2017 in line with CIGR Presidium term.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of you for your support. I believe the development of the International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (iAABE) is another milestone in the history of CIGR, and should significantly promote our profession globally.

*Da-Wen Sun
 Past President of CIGR*

CIGR World Congresses and International Conferences, 2016–2020

**The 4th CIGR International Conference
 - AgEng Conference-2016
 Automation, Environment and Food Safety
 26-29 June 2016, Aarhus, Denmark**

Our 4th international conference on Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering with the subtitle: Automation, Environment and Food Safety will be held in Aarhus, Denmark on 26 to 29 June 2016.

At the opening session, keynote speakers on Automation, Biorefinery and Energy Production, and challenges in Food Supply and Food Safety were invited. We have a huge responsibility as engineers to develop, document and implement technical solutions that will support feeding of a growing population, ensure food and feed quality, meet the energy demands, protect the environment and make our World sustainable. This conference is a unique opportunity for engineers around the World to share knowledge, debate, and advance the interests of networking which will be brought to a new dimension introducing matchmaking between scientists and companies with the opportunity to form strong alliances and consortia for project applications.

The Conference is a joint event of CIGR (International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering) and EurAgEng (European Society of Agricultural Engineering) and co-sponsored by NJF (Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists) and Aarhus University. Besides an excellent scientific program formed by the participants, Aarhus University will offer a well-organized conference with plenty of room for technical discussions and social interactions. All coffee breaks, lunches and the conference dinner will be provided in a huge tent also accommodating posters and exhibitions. Participants will be exposed to Danish music and singing during social events as visiting The Old Town, the Opening Ceremony, and the conference dinner. Exchange of knowledge and networking is given the highest priorities and the venue is ideal for these. The participants could extend their



stay to attend a PhD-course or just participating in the social and technical tours.

Scientific topics and call for papers

The conference will be organized into 7 main topics, each divided into a number of sub-sessions. There are also several parallel conferences and workshops. The main topics are as follows:

- Land, soil and water engineering
- Structures, animal production and environmental technologies
- Plant production technologies
- Energy, biomass and biological residues
- Systems management
- Post-harvest technologies
- Information technologies

Parallel events:

- ERABEE – education session
- Biosystems Engineering Journal – how to publish
- Symposium: CFD application in agriculture
- Image Analysis for Agricultural Products and Processes
- AIIA project meeting – Innovation in safety and health

The conference will open for abstracts in December 2015. We encourage you to submit abstracts within the broad field of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering. As part of the submission, contributors should select topic and sub-session. The organizers suggest that interested parties select a primary and secondary choice of sub-session which will make it easier for the scientific committee to construct well balanced scientific sessions. Abstracts should be well written and informative and include keywords describing the topic. Presentations could be done orally or in the form of posters. The scientific committee will send the abstracts to reviewers and based on the feedback organise oral and poster sessions. Notification of acceptance for oral or poster presentation (or rejection) will be given by April 15 2016. Each sub-session will have specific time slots for posters where they should be manned. All presenters will be offered the opportunity to write a full paper. Abstracts and full papers will be available at a USB-pen upon registration.

Matchmaking

The conference is a unique opportunity to network with research and business partners working with agricultural and biosystems engineering. As a part of the official program, the organizing committee offers the possibility to participate in structured matchmaking events. The benefits could include: Finding consortia members for international projects; Sharing research results with new potential business partners; and

Performing networking on a global scale.

Participation in Matchmaking is free of charge and registration will open January 2016.

Important dates

- 1 Dec. 2015:** Abstract submission opens
- 1 Jan. 2016:** On-line registration opens
- 15 Feb. 2016:** Abstract submission deadline
- 15 Apr. 2016:** Notification of oral and paper acceptance
- 30 Apr. 2016:** Early bird registration deadline
- 15 May 2016:** Full paper submission deadline

CIGR Business meeting During 4th CIGR International Conference 2016 at Aarhus University, Denmark

Sat 25 June 2016

- 9:00-11:30 CIGR Presidium meeting
- 13:30-14:30 CIGR Technical Board Meeting
- 15:00 18:00 CIGR Executive Board meeting

Sun 26 September, 2016

10:00-12:00 CIGR Section Board I - VII meetings
 14:00-16:00 CIGR Working Group meetings
 16:00-18:00 Editorial board meeting

18:00-18:40 CIGR Award ceremony
 18:40-19:45 CIGR General Assembly

Tue 28 June 2016

Program at a glance for June 2016

Date	Morning	Lunch	Afternoon		Evening
Sat. 25	Presidium meeting		Technical Board Meeting	Executive Board Meeting	
Sun. 26	CIGR section meetings EurAgEng Council		Working group meetings BE Editorial Board	Registration ENGAGE network	Visiting "The Old Town"
Mon. 27	Registration Opening ceremony and keynote speakers at "Musikhuset"		Oral and poster sessions, exhibitions		Welcome reception at the Town Hall of Aarhus
Tue. 28	Oral and poster sessions, exhibitions	EurAgEng Open meet	Oral and poster sessions, exhibitions	Awards and CIGR general assembly	Conference dinner and entertainment
Wed. 29	Oral and poster sessions, exhibitions		Oral and poster sessions, exhibitions	Closing ceremony	
Thu. 30	Technical tours				



Venue: Aarhus University

Aarhus University will host the conference. It is one of the most rapidly advancing institutions ranked among the top 100 universities worldwide and agricultural research at AU is no. 9 on the U.S. News Best Global Universities rankings. The university has more than 44,000 students and 11,000 employees. Aarhus University is located in the city of Aarhus with almost 300,000 inhabitants. The culture is lively and young mainly due to the city's large student population. Aarhus is an old city but is still young at heart! The city was founded in the Viking era as an open trading station at the mouth of the river. Today the café environment along the river is one of the most popular gathering places, and acts as a magnet for the city's residents and guests.

Accommodation

A sufficient number of hotel rooms are pre-reserved for conference participants. Special rates may be booked through

our website. Our partner Kongres Kompagniet has made preliminary hotel reservations in different categories in the city. Preference could be stated on the registration form. In order to obtain the stated room prices, reservations must be made through Kongres Kompagniet. The conference hotels are booked on a first come, first served basis.

Registration

All registration is handled online at our webpage. Kongres Kompagniet handles all conference registrations, hotel reservations and correspondence of these. Registration includes a USB-pen with all abstracts and papers, coffee and lunch break during the registered dates and access to the conference. Reception at the Town Hall is free but interested parties have to sign up for it. The conference dinner is limited to 800 attendees.

	Before April 30	After May 1	Desk rate
Members of CIGR, AgEng or NJF	525	600	670
Non members	575	650	670
Companions	120	120	120
Students	310	360	410

One day admn			320
Low and middle income countries	420	470	470
Old Town of Aarhus, incl. dinner	40	40	NA
ARoS voucher	0	0	0
Reception at the Town Hall	Free	Free	NA
Conference dinner	40	40	60

Additional information

Please see our website where more information can be found about the conference and scientific program, parallel conferences, PhD-courses, sponsors and exhibitions, technical and social tours and much more:

<http://conferences.au.dk/cigr-2016/>

For inquiries, you may send an email to the following heads of the Committee:



President of the conference:
Prof. Morten Dam Rasmussen
at Aarhus University
Email: mdr@eng.au.dk

Chair of the scientific committee:
Dr. Claus Grøn Sørensen at Aarhus University
Email: claus.soerensen@eng.au.dk

The XIX CIGR World Congress 22-26 April 2018, Antalya, Turkey

During the CIGR General Assembly which was held in Valencia, Spain on 9 July 2012, Turkey was approved to host the XIX CIGR World Congress.

The Congress will be held on 22-26 April, 2018 in Antalya, Turkey.

The Organizing Committee is already preparing for the conduct of the said event.

For queries, you may send an email to Prof. Can Ertekin of Akdeniz University in this email address ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr.

The 5th CIGR International Conference 2020 Integrating Agriculture and Society through Engineering 14-17 June 2020, Quebec, Canada

During the CIGR General Assembly in Beijing, China on 17 September 2014, Quebec was approved to host the 5th CIGR International Conference.

The Conference will be held on 14-17 June, 2020 in Quebec, Canada.

Program overview

14 June (Sun): Registration and welcome reception

15 June (Mon): Opening ceremony, Technical sessions and Cruise on the St.-Lawrence River

16 June (Tue): Plenary session, Technical sessions and CIGR Awards Ceremony

17 June (Wed): Technical sessions and closing ceremony

Congress venue: The Quebec Convention Centre

For queries, you may send an email to the Organizer and/or Local Committee Chair at the following email addresses: stephane.godbout@irda.qc.ca

2. CIGR SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

The 2nd International Conference in Olsztyn “ENERGY IN AGRICULTURE” 03 – 06 July, Poland 2016

Round table discussion

Chairman of the meeting: Tadeusz Juliszewski, Prof. PhD
(President of the CIGR)

Topic: Self-supply of the energy in agriculture

Introduction: Different agricultural, biological raw materials are processed into gaseous, liquid and solid biofuels. Biofuels are used mostly for heating and as the engine fuels. Sometimes they are transformed into electrical energy. This unconventional energy sources - produced in agriculture - are transferred to the open market. On the other hand, the conventional energy sources (coal, earth gas, gasoline etc.) are transferred to the agriculture. Does such system is rational? Perhaps biofuels should be used in agricultural directly, instead using of conventional fuels?

Conference Schedule

(Sunday) 03 July from 15.00 Check in

(Monday) 04 July

8.30-10.30 Registration
 11.00-11.30 Conference opening and welcome
 11.30-13.30 Opening Session
 (12.30-12.45) Coffee Break
 13.30-14.15 Board meeting section IV
 14.00-15.30 Lunch break
 16.00-18.00 Parallel Sessions (Plenary Session-Part I and Poster Session)
 19.00 Gala dinner

(Tuesday) 05 July

10.00-12.00 Plenary Session – Part II
 (12.00-12.30) Coffee Break
 12:30-14:00 Round table discussion
 14.00-15.00 Lunch Break
 15.30-18.00 Study Tour
 18.00-18.30 Closing Session

(Wednesday) 06 July One day Technical Tour

We invite you to visit our conference website and fill in and submit the form to participate.

<http://uwm.edu.pl/keie/eia/index.html>

Organising committee: the II International Conference .html website and fill Olsztyn, Poland 2016

Chairman:

Professor Piotr Sołowiej

pit@uwm.edu.pl

Report on the 44th International Symposium, Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering 23rd – 26th February 2016, Opatija, Croatia

The 44th International Symposium Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering was held on 23rd-26th February 2016 in Grand Hotel "Adriatic Opatija, Republic of Croatia.

The principle Organiser, Agricultural Engineering Department, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb was supported by the following frameworks: Department of Agricultural Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture, University J. J. Strossmayer, Osijek, Department of Bio-systems Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture and Lifesciences, University of Maribor (Slovenia), Agricultural Institute of



Slovenia, National institute for agricultural machinery – INMA Bucharest (Romania) and Croatian Agricultural Engineering Society. In addition, CIGR, EurAgEng and AAEE bestowed their support and endorsement on the Event.

" This year 73 participants from 8 countries attended the Symposium. It consisted of an Opening Session and six Topic Sessions covering all the broad subject-areas that fall under the scope of Agricultural Engineering. At the Opening Session prof. dr. Daniele De Wrachien, former president of the EurAgEng, in his speech highlighted briefly the main historical steps of the symposium emphasising its significant role as a gathering event for scientists, engineers and dealers from south-east European countries and brought the greetings of EurAgEng and CIGR. The Convenor, doc. dr. sc. Igor Kovačev ended the Opening Session with the greetings of the Croatian Society of Agricultural Engineering to the audience. A number of lectures followed, among which are worth mentioning: "Fluid dynamics of sprinkler spray flow: classic and quantum trajectories" presented by prof. dr. Daniele De Wrachien from Italy, "Climate adaptive land reclamation and improvement systems- an integrated approach of current challenges in agriculture" given by prof. dr. Rares Halbac-Cotoara-Zamfir from Romania, "Stress and strains distribution in the frame of agricultural cultivators using finite element method" presented by prof. dr. Sorin Stephan Biris from Romania, "Finite element model for simulating mechanical behaviour of biomass residues" featured by PhD student Goran Mikulandric from Belgium, "Use of digestate in the potato growing technology" performed by Dr. sc. Jaroslav Cepl from Czech Republic, "Non-traditional energy plant properties and qualitative indicators" delivered by prof. dr. Algirdas Jasinskas from Lithuania, "Decrease of ecological footprint in greenhouse by replacing the conventional fuels with renewable ones" delivered by prof. dr. Mira Lakota, from Slovenia, "Spectro-radiometrical analysis of plastic nets for greenhouse shading" presented by prof. dr. Pietro Picuno from Italy, "Experimental models of underground temperature for decision making in wine cellar design" presented by doc. dr. sc. Stefano Benni from Italy, "LCA-tool to assess sustainability in agricultural engineering", presented by prof. dr. Andreas Gronauer from Austria.

This year meeting of CIGR WG Rural Development and Preservation of Cultural Heritage was organized during symposium and we have some interesting presentation like "Green energy and rural development-role of high education" delivered by prof. dr Milan Martinov from

Serbia "Machinery induced compaction of agricultural soil and mitigation strategies in Danube region" presented by dr. sc. Gerhard Moitzi from Austria and "Biomass valorisation for energy uses and Central European Initiative instruments to promote regional cooperation" by project manager Peter Canciani from Italy. In the Topic Sessions, each starting with a review report, 52 papers were discussed, in oral presentation. At the Closing Session the Convenor emphasised the role of EurAgEng and CIGR in the ecologically sustainable development of agriculture and in the preservation of the rural cultural heritage within the East-European countries.

Participants were given electronic copies of the Proceedings consisting in volumes of 581 pages, containing 52 papers all peer reviewed. Papers from the Proceedings have been indexed in Thomson Reuters (The Conference Proceedings Citation Index, part of Web of Science® database) since 1997.

Maziva Zagreb d.d.-INA group (national petrol company) presented its results of field testing latest palette of synthetic and bio-degradable oils in presentation "Bidegradable lubricants for agricultural machinery" delivered by BSc Eng Tonca Caleta Prolic.

Downloadable electronic version of proceedings of the 44th symposium is available at symposium's web site <http://atae.agr.hr/proceedings.htm> starting on 30th of March 2016. Information regarding the 45th Symposium in the year 2017 will soon be available at the web site: <http://atae.agr.hr>

Doc. dr. sc. Igor Kovacev, Convenor of the Symposium
Prof. Daniele De Wrachien, Past President of EurAgEng

3. PUBLICATIONS

The CIGR Journal Agricultural Engineering International ISSN 1682-1130

Submit manuscripts for peer review to
www.CIGRjournal.org

In the whole year of 2015, the Editorial office of CIGR Journal has continually been working hard and achieved progresses under the guidance of CIGR Presidium, with fully support of Prof. Fedro Zazuita, the instruction of Prof. Zhang Lanfang, the Editor-in-Chief, and the active volunteering work of all the Associate Editors (AE) and the enthusiastic support of the reviewers. The numbers of manuscript submissions and registered users continues to increase. The table below shows the statistics of the CIGR Journal from May 5th to Dec. 31st of 2015 using Open Journal System (OJS). With the increasing number of submissions, improving the quality of the papers to be published has been the primary goal of the Journal. Authors, reviewers and Associate Editors are the keys to upgrade the quality of CIGR Journal. Prof. Zhang Lanfang had a face-to-face meeting with Prof. Fedro Zazuita on Sept. 2nd, 2015 at the Claremont Hotel, Berkeley, California, US and discussed the issues of CIGR Journal and worked out the working plan and timetable for the coming two years. From May to December 2015, Prof. Zhang Lanfang had scheduled skype meetings with Prof. Fedro Zazuita, exchanged ideas on some key issues of CIGR Journal and jointly worked out the new ways to improve the quality of the journal. In order to guarantee the technical and academic level of the published manuscripts to be included in Thomson Reuters citation, the International Editorial Committee of CIGR Journal will be set up by the professionals with both high academic specialties and enthusiasm for the public services.



Prof. Lanfang Zhang

Note: Percentages for peer-reviewed submissions sometimes may not add up to 100% as items resubmitted are either accepted, declined or still in the process of review.

From May 5th to Dec. 31st, 2015, 225 manuscripts have been submitted, 28.1% submissions per month on average. The average time to complete the review process, editorial process to publish a manuscript is more than 90 days. Among the 225 new submissions, 16.4% have been peer reviewed and are in editing, among the 44 manuscripts in editing, 7 of them were submitted before May 5th, 2015. Of newly submitted 225 papers, 82 are in the review process and 60 (26.7%) are with reviewers' comments. Some Associate Editors need to make decisions based on reviewers' comments or assign the manuscripts to more reviewers in order to speed up the editorial process. It is also notable that 20.2% of newly submitted manuscripts were archived by the Editor-in-Chief before assigning to the Associate Editors because of their incompatibility with the author's guideline, not in scope of the CIGR Journal and poor English level. It is the responsibility of Editor-in-Chief to filter unqualified manuscripts, sustain and improve the quality of our Journal. During the 8 months, three issues of CIGR Journal, Vol. 17, No. 2, No. 3 and No.4 with 114 manuscripts of total pages 1214 were published on time. We will continue our endeavor of maintaining the manuscript statistics and prompt communications with all the Associate Editors.

By Jan. 25th, 2016, the total number of registered users in CIGR Journal through OJS reached 9639 with 511 new users compared to the statistics accounted last time on Jan 31st, 2015. The number of registered readers is 8286 with 318 new compared to the database at the end of January 2015. Also, owing to the incomplete registration information, particularly without clearly indicating the review areas of the reviewers, it is hard for the Associate Editors to select proper reviewers according to their expertise. The CIGR Journal warmly welcomes the participation of its members as well as the scientists and engineers engaged in agricultural and biosystems engineering worldwide. We appreciate your journal work and your support. If you have not registered in

CIGR Journal, please do so by going to the website and registering as an author and reviewer.

Right now, there are 156 manuscripts in total, with 44 papers accepted and in editing, the rest are still in process--under review or revision.

CIGR Journal has 3 new Associate Editors in 2015. They are: Dr. LIU Donghong, Professor/Doctoral Supervisor/Executive Director, Fuli Institute of Food Science, Zhejiang University, P. R. China, Dr. Mohammad Reza Alizadeh, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Engineering (Head), Rice Research Institute of Iran (RRII), Rasht, Iran, Dr. Hamid Reza Gazor, Academic board member (Associate professor) of Agricultural Machinery & Mechanization Department,

Agricultural Engineering Research Institute (AERI). Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO) of Agricultural Ministry of Iran. Welcome them to provide the volunteer work for CIGR Journal!

Thank you!

*Prof. Zhang Lanfang
Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal*

2015 Statistics for the CIGR Journal (May 5th, 2015–Dec. 31st, 2015)

Issues (Vol.17, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, 2015)	Published 3 (Vol.17, No. 2, No. 3 and No.4)
Items (Research papers)	34 in Vol.17, No.2, 42 in Vol.17, No.3, 38 in Vol.17, No.4
Total new submissions	225
Peer reviewed	168 (74.6%)
Papers were held by Associate Editors	9 (4%)
In review with some review comments	60 (26.7%)
In review without review comments	22 (9.8%)
Accepted as new submissions, including published and in editing	71 (31.6%)
Declined as new submissions	72 (32%)
Total manuscript in handling(including the ones submitted before)	112
Days from submission to complete review	Over 60
Days from submission to publication	Over 90

CIGR Section Boards (2015-2018)

Section I:	<i>Land and Water</i>	Chair: Gerrit J. Carsjens (Netherland)
Section II:	<i>Structures and Environment</i>	Chair: Eberhard Hartung (Germany)
Section III:	<i>Plant Production</i>	Chair: Qin Zhang(USA)
Section IV:	<i>Energy in Agriculture</i>	Chair: R.Cengiz Akdeniz (Turkey)
Section V:	<i>System Management</i>	Chair: Remigio Berruto (Italy)
Section VI:	<i>Bioprocesses</i>	Chair: Amauri Rosenthal (Brasil)
Section VII:	<i>Information Technology</i>	Chair: Seishi Ninomiya (Japan)

All correspondence and information on forthcoming activities should be sent to:

CIGR GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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Professor emeritus Dr. Makoto Hoki, Assistant to Secretary General

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DISCLAIMER

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