

Newsletter N° 70
April 2005

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NEWS FROM NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SOCIETIES

Some changes for the Swiss National Committee of Rural Engineering, Irrigation and Drainage (CH-AGRID)

To become more efficient and to ensure the future of its activities, the CH-AGRID committee has decided to reorganise internally and to strongly modify its structures. Therefore and further to numerous discussions, meetings and brainstorming sessions, CH-AGRID, the Swiss National Commission on Agro-Systems Engineering and Land Improvement, has officially been awarded member status in the Swiss Academy of Technical Science (ASST) and takes over the activities of the former association, CH-AGRID.

This new commission is composed of 15 members, including a committee of three persons, each of whom representing academic and professional associations within the agricultural engineering field of interest.

President: Mr Claude-Alain Vuillerat, agricultural engineer, director of an engineer-consultant private office

Vice-president: Mr Robert Kaufmann, agronomist, Agroscope FAT, Taenikon

Treasurer: Mr Andreas Schild, agricultural engineer, Swiss Federal Office of Agriculture, Berne

This new commission will pursue the missions of the previous association; its representatives (or National Points of Contact - NPC) in the international memberships and their addresses are as follows:

ICID: Prof. André Musy, EPF Lausanne, ICID vice-president NPC address: HYDRAM-ISTE-ENAC-EPFL, GR C1 565, Station no. 2, CH-1015 Lausanne

EurAgEng Dr Walter Meier, Eglisau (Mr Robert Kaufmann, Agroscope FAT Taenikon)

CIGR Mr Michael Gysi, vice-director, NPC address: Agroscope FAT, CH-8356 Taenikon

For any other national activity, information must be requested from the CH-AGRID secretariat, which will forward requests: Bureau B+C Ingénieurs S.A., avenue du Casino 45, CH-1820 Montreux. Phone: +41 21 966 10 80, Fax: +41 21 966 10 89 Email: vuillerat@vtx.ch

Good luck to this new commission, which will ensure efficient and pertinent developments in several agricultural engineering fields, both nationally and internationally.

Report on the 33rd International Symposium "Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering" 21 – 25 February 2005, Opatija, Croatia

The 33rd International Symposium "Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering" was held on 21-25 February 2005 in Opatija, Republic of Croatia. The principal organiser, the Agricultural Engineering Department of the University of Zagreb, was supported by the following frameworks: Faculty of Agriculture, University J.J. Strossmayer, Osijek, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Maribor (Slovenia), Agricultural Institute of Slovenia,

Hungarian Institute of Agricultural Engineering and Croatian Agricultural Engineering Society. The symposium was co-sponsored by CIGR, EurAgEng, AAAE, and AESEE (Association of Agricultural Engineers of South Eastern Europe).

The Symposium was attended by 115 participants from 18 countries. It consisted of an Opening Session and six Topic Sessions covering all the broad subject areas that fall under the scope of Agricultural Engineering. The importance of the event was underlined by the presence of the Secretary-General of CIGR, Prof. P. Schulze Lammers, the Past President of EurAgEng, Prof. Daniele De Wrachien, the President of AESEE, Prof. Nikolay Mihailov, and of the representatives of the national societies of Agricultural Engineers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Prof. S. Skaljic, Hungary, Prof. A. Fekete, Romania, Prof. V. Ros, Serbia and Montenegro, Prof. M. Martinov and Prof. M. Djelic, and Turkey, Prof. K. Okyay Sindir.

At the Opening Session, the convenor, Prof. Silvio Kosutic, brought greetings from the Croatian Society of Agricultural Engineering and the Faculty of Agriculture of the State University of Zagreb. Prof. Daniele De Wrachien stressed the long tradition of the symposia and their future role as one of the main gatherings for agricultural engineers in South-Eastern Europe, and he pointed out the dimension of the tasks and challenges with which agricultural engineering education in European universities will have to cope in the third millennium. Prof. Nikolay Mihailov closed the session with greetings from AESEE.

Next, a number of lectures were held, e.g.:

"An approach to biosystem engineering education in the agricultural field," presented by Prof. V. Ros, who underlined the importance of a new approach to biological systems through an application and integration of engineering systems in biology;

"Spray evaporation losses in sprinkler irrigation systems: A new performance indicator," delivered by Prof. D. De Wrachien, who presented a new procedure,

developed in co-operation with Prof. G. Lorenzini of the State University of Bologna, suitable to assess the air friction effect in the jet evaporation losses due to environmental conditions;

"An approach to nutrient management planning in Georgia, USA: The role of the Agricultural University," given by Dr. M. Bass of USDA, who described a Nutrient Management Plan suitable to address non-point source pollution from animal feeding operations.

In the Topic Sessions, each starting with a review report, 59 papers were discussed, in oral presentations or as posters. At the closing Session the convenor emphasised the role of EurAgEng in the sustainable development of agriculture in



Prof. Daniele De Wrachien



Prof. Silvio Kosutic

the East-European countries, regardless of their financial capabilities and present transition problems.

During the symposium round-table meetings of representatives of CIGR, AESEE, ERA and EurAgEng were held, focusing on the main achievements and trends of the DAAD Project "A Network of Advanced Education in Agricultural Engineering for South-Eastern Europe". The participants agreed that there is a real need for improving and restructuring education and training in the field of Agricultural Engineering based on a hybrid system of Engineering and Biosystems. Moreover, they expressed a shared interest in a harmonization of the core curricula structure to stimulate and enhance student mobility across Europe.

World famous agricultural machinery producers, such as AGO, Case-New Holland, Claas, Deutz-Fahr, Hardi, John Deere and others presented their current programmes by means of video tapes and oral presentations during afternoon sessions.

Information regarding the 34th Symposium in the year 2006 will soon be available at the web site <http://www.agr.hr/aed/index.htm>

Prof. Silvio Kosutic, Convenor of the Symposium

Prof. Daniele De Wrachien, Past President of EurAgEng

Cooperation between EurAgEng and the Italian Association for the Unitary Restoring of Rural Heritage and Sites (RURALIA)

The Italian Association for the Unitary Restoring of Rural Heritage and Sites (RURALIA - Associazione Italiana per il Recupero Unitario delle Realtà Agricole e dei Luoghi) was launched in 1998 with the main objectives of:

- Promoting studies inherent in the conservation, recuperation, enhancement and re-use of traditional rural buildings and landscapes, running training courses and

publishing essays and other writings on care and repair methods;

- Organising visits, tours, conferences on the recovery of the rural heritage and relevant craft techniques by experts in their fields;
- Establishing a documentation centre for research in the field of rural patrimony;
- Consulting local councils, associations, public and private entities, expressing opinions about planning and projects fundamental to rural patrimony recovery.

EurAgEng has embarked on a programme of making links with like-minded organisations. In the context of this endeavour RURALIA and EurAgEng have reached an agreement on close cooperation and mutual assistance for the transfer of knowledge at both national and international levels.

The two Presidents, Prof. Antoniotto Guido Bono Cavalchini of RURALIA and Prof. Daniele De Wrachien of EurAgEng, signed in Milan (Italy) in September 2004 a Memorandum of Understanding which provides for the following:

- Nomination of representatives and deputy representatives to each other's relevant decision-making bodies as observers;
- Publication of each other's announcements in their own media on a reciprocal basis, free of charge;
- Cooperation in the planning and implementation of enterprises of common interest as research projects, guidelines, workshops, conferences, training courses, etc.

Prof. Daniele De Wrachien

Past President of EurAgEng

Prof. Antoniotto Guidobono Cavalchini

President RURALIA

NEWS FROM SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

Report on the CIGR Section I Board Meeting held on 10 October 2004 Beijing International Meeting Center

Opening and welcome

The Chairman of Section I friendly welcomed all members and observers to this public session and expressed the Board's gratitude to Prof. Guanhua Huang for hosting the meeting.

Composition of Section I Board

According to the CIGR Incoming President's opinion, each Technical Section is managed by three chairpersons - by the Chair, one Vice-Chair, and one Secretary - and up to 13 regular members; liaison members representing other technical or scientific societies relative to similar or related fields of science and technology may be part of the Section Boards in addition to the regular members. Accordingly, there should be three more seats of regular members in Section I. The new members of the Section Board are proposed by the members of the Section on the basis of criteria of maximum geographical representativeness. Mandates are for four years, and Board Members may be re-elected for another term, exceptionally for two terms.

The Chair cannot be re-elected. Luis S. Pereira and Hubert van Lier are proposed to be elected as Honorary Board Members. There was agreement that the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) should be represented on the Section I Board by a Liaison Member (permanent observer), namely Yohei Sato. The Chairman closed the debate and kept in charge of preparing one proposal for setting up the new structure for the Board.

Inter-regional conferences "Environment-Water"

Prof. J. M. Tarjuelo reported on the 6th Conference in Albacete, Spain, which was held on September 3-5, 2003. The title of the Conference was "Land and Water Use, Planning and Management". 132 high-quality papers were submitted from 35 countries of the five continents. The abstracts of all the papers were published in a book including a CD-ROM with the full text manuscripts.

Prof. G. Huang reported on the approaching 7th Conference, to be held in Beijing, China, on October 11-14, 2004. The title of the Conference is "Land and Water Management: Decision Tools and Practice". 188 papers have been submitted and 160 participants have registered. Full versions of the technical papers accepted are available

to the participants both on a CD-ROM and in officially published proceedings. The main topics of the Conference are:

- Water saving and water productivity
 - Land use planning and management
 - Soil erosion and conservation
 - Water conservation and soil management
 - Salinity, water treatment & reuse, contamination control
- Prof. P. Taylor reported on the preparations for the 8th Inter-Regional Conference, organized by the University of Texas at Arlington, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas, USA, to be held on July 2-5, 2005, under the patronage of CIGR Section I and CIGR Section VII. The title of the Conference is "Environmental Quality through Collaboration and Design". North Texas, the site of Envirowater 2005, is one of the most rapidly expanding urban areas in the United States. The conflicts arising over land and water use reflect many of the larger issues being experienced around the globe. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to examine first-hand sites of competing uses for land and water resources, and to examine projects and plans aimed at resolving these competing uses for future generations. This 8th Inter-Regional Conference Envirowater-2005 aims to be a meeting forum for engineers, hydrologists, planners, designers, architects, landscape architects and other professionals interested in land and water issues in the 21st century. The main topics of the conference are:

- Water resource development, urban and rural
- Soil and land use, urban and rural
- Environmental constraints in planning and design
- Collaboration among resource planners and designers
- Information and computer technology.
- Competing uses for land and water resources

The Section I Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2005. It is agreed to submit a formal invitation for CIGR Section VII to participate in this Conference.

Prof. H. van Lier reported on the preparations on the 9th Inter-Regional Conference to be held in Delft, the Netherlands, from May 17 to 19, 2006, under the patronage of CIGR Section I and ISOMUL (International Study group Of Multiple Uses of Land). The title of this conference is "Concepts for Water Management and Multifunctional Land-Uses in Low Lands". It aims to bring together both scientists and practitioners in the field of planning and designing the future lowlands and deltas. The first part of the conference is therefore dedicated to research projects and scientific presentations and discussions and a second part to the presentation and discussions of new concepts for the development of lowlands and deltas, including a one-day field trip in the Rhine Delta. The main topics of the Conference are:

- Opportunities and threats:
- Water and Climate Change:
- Groundwater and salt water intrusion:
- Water management–systems as steering instrument for planning
- Multifunctional land uses as approach to the problems of lowlands and deltas

The Chairman open the discussion for the future Inter-Regional Conferences suggesting that the 10th Envirowater should be held somewhere in Asia.

Sponsored and co-sponsored activities

The Chairman reported on sponsored and co-sponsored activities involving CIGR Section I:

* ISCO 2004: 13th International Soil Conservation Organization Conference, organised by ASSSI (Australian Soil Science Society Inc.) and IECA (International Erosion Control Association) and co-sponsored by CIGR Section I, this conference was held at Brisbane, Queensland, Australia from 4 to 9 July 2004.

* Inter-Regional Conference on "Food Production and Water: Social and Economic Issues of Irrigation and Drainage", Moscow, Russia, September 2004.

* AgEng 2004, Leuven, Belgium, 12-16 September 2004, organised by EurAgEng, with CIGR Section I co-sponsoring the session on "Basic Natural Resource Engineering". The conference dealt with engineering issues related to the future of agriculture, the environment, biological systems and related industries in order to serve society and all people.

The Chairman reported on future sponsored and co-sponsored activities involving CIGR Section I:

* 17th Triennial Conference of the International Soil Tillage Research Organization (ISTRO), to be held in Kiel, Germany, from August 28 to September 3, 2006, on "Sustainability – its Impact on Soil Management and Environment".

* Land and Water Use and Environment, plenary session in the 16th CIGR World Congress, 37 September 2006 in Bonn, Germany, under the title of "Agricultural Engineering for a Better World". At request of the World Congress organisers, it was agreed by the Board that the coordinator of this session should be Guanhua Huang.

* Contacts have been started to co-sponsor the International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage, CUBA-IRRIGATION 2005, to be held in October 25-28, 2005 at Havana, Cuba.

Activities to be developed at the initiative of Section I Board members

The Chairman asked Prof. E.H. Bartali to report on the proposal for an International Seminar on "Rural roads, design, rehabilitation and maintenance", that ANAFID, the National Moroccan Committee of CIGR, wishes to organise jointly with CIGR Section I in Rabat, Morocco, in November 2005.

Enhancing the Asian participation within CIGR Section I

The Chairman expressed his best wishes for the Asian Association of Agricultural Engineering (AAAE) to get more involved in the activities undertaken by CIGR Section I. It was also agreed that he should contact some relevant representative members during the World Congress in Beijing, China.

Relationships with other societies in the fields of Land and Water

* PAWEES: It was agreed that the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering should be represented on the Section I Board as a Liaison Member (permanent observer).

Distance learning in water resources management for agricultural development and management

The Chairman explained that this item was included to promote new activities involved in the field of interest of CIGR Section I, with the ideas proposed by A. Musy.

Antonio Brasa, Section I Secretary

CIGR – SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

A chronological list agricultural engineering events can also be found in our Events Calendar on CIGR's Website:

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

5th International CIGR Symposium "Concrete for a Sustainable Agriculture: Agro-, Aqua- and Community Applications"

The Polytechnical University of Madrid (UPM), the Spanish Institute of Cement and its Applications (IECA), and the Institute for the Promotion of Certified Reinforcement (IPAC) invite you to participate in the 5th International Symposium "Concrete for a Sustainable Agriculture", which will be held from **5 to 8 June 2005** in **San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Spain** under the auspices of CIGR Section II.

The following themes will be dealt with:

- Innovative concrete structures and infrastructures in agriculture, horticulture and livestock
- Durability and quality aspects on concrete in agriculture
- Concrete in relation to general animal welfare and energy savings
- Concrete for water management and environmental protection
- Precast concrete elements in livestock and rural buildings
- Other relevant topics

The official languages of the symposium will be Spanish and English with simultaneous translation planned for all sessions. All papers should be written in English. The registration fees are 550/650 Euros (before/after 15 May 2005) for members of CIGR and associated organisations. For further information please contact the Secretariat: secretariat@cvr.etsia.upm.es Departamento de Construcción y Vías Rurales, E.T.S. Ingenieros Agrónomos, Ciudad Universitaria, 28040 Madrid, SPAIN. Tel.: +34 913365762 Fax: +34 913365766. http://www.cvr.etsia.upm.es/cigr_concrete_symposium.htm

8th Interregional Conference Envirowater 2005 on "Environmental Quality through Collaboration and Design"

This event, organised by CIGR Technical Section I "Land and Water Engineering", will be held from **2 to 5 July 2005**, at the University of Texas at **Arlington** in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas, **USA**. The conference will be sponsored by the University of Texas at Arlington, School of Architecture, Program in Landscape Architecture, Department of Civil Engineering, and by the University of Texas at Austin, School of Architecture, Program in Landscape Architecture.

Main Topics:

- Water resource development, urban and rural
- Soil and land use, urban and rural
- Environmental constraints in planning and design
- Collaboration among resource planners and designers
- Information and computer technology
- Competing uses for land and water resources

For further information, please look up <http://www.uta.edu/cigr> Phone: +1 817 272 2801 Fax: +1 817 272 5098. Email: cigr@exchange.uta.edu

XXXI CIOSTA - CIGR V Congress "Increasing Work Efficiency in Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry"

This congress, sponsored by CIGR, CIOSTA, EurAgEng and VDI-MEG, will be held from **19 to 21 September 2005** at the **University of Hohenheim, Germany**. The congress language will be English. The scientific programme will include plenary sessions, parallel oral sessions and poster sessions on the following topics:

- Methods and modelling
- Process engineering and controlling
- Calculation and planning
- Farm management
- Ergonomics and work place design
- Work safety, prevention and risk analysis

Oral presentations will be limited to 20 minutes each, plus 10 minutes of discussion. The oral presentations will be supplemented by an exhibition of posters. Both will be published in the proceedings of the congress.

Dates and deadlines:

Submission of camera-ready manuscripts: July 1, 2005
The congress fee will be around 320 Euros (provisional estimate), privileges are intended. A technical tour will be organised on demand. For further information please look up <http://www.uni-hohenheim.de/ciosta-cigr> and contact the co-ordinator: Dr. Monika Krause E-mail: ciosta@uni-hohenheim.de Tel. +49 711 459 3231 (Tuesdays only), Fax: +49 711 459 4307

9th International Congress on Mechanization and Energy in Agriculture & 27th International Conference of CIGR Section IV

This congress, jointly organised by CIGR Section IV and Ege University (Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Machinery), will take place from **27 to 29 September 2005** on the campus of Ege University in **Izmir, Turkey**. It aims to attract a broad range of contributions from the following research areas:

- Renewable and new energy technologies for agriculture
- Efficient use of energy sources in agriculture
- Recent developments in agricultural machinery
- Future oriented aspects of tractors and system vehicles
- Advances in instrumentation and controls
- Postharvest technologies
- Optimization techniques and applications in biosystems
- Recent developments in agricultural mechanization planning and management

The scientific programme will include oral and poster sessions. Full papers must be prepared according to the instructions given at the congress web site and submitted through the web site or sent on CD. The papers accepted as oral or poster presentations by Scientific Advisory Committee will be included in the congress proceedings.

Dates and deadlines:

Full papers: 1 May 2005

Notification of acceptance: 1 June 2005

Advance registration deadline: 1 May 2005

The conference language will be English, and all presentations will be made in English. Registration fees are 200/250 Euros (before/after 1 May 2005), 150/200 Euros for students and accompanying persons. The fees include lunches and refreshments as well as (except for accompanying persons) congress materials. Papers of delegates failing to pay their registration fees by 1 July 2005 will not be included in the congress proceedings.

For further information please look up <http://www.ageng.ege.edu.tr/> or contact: The Congress Secretariat; Ege University, Faculty of Agriculture; Department of Agricultural Machinery; 35100 Bornova-Izmir/Turkey. Tel./Fax: +90 232 3427642 E-mail: ageng@ageng.ege.edu.tr

International Seminar “Maintenance of Rural Roads – Stakes and Perspectives”

On **20 and 21 April 2006**, the Moroccan Permanent Association for Roads Congress (AMPCR) and the National Association for Land Reclamation, Irrigation and Drainage (ANAFID) will hold an international seminar on “Maintenance of Rural Roads-Stakes and Perspectives” in **Rabat, Morocco**. Organized in collaboration with CIGR and the World Road Association (PIARC), the seminar will offer an insight into the state of the art in management, funding and techniques related to rural roads maintenance.

The seminar will deal with four main topics:

- Role of rural roads and their maintenance
- Maintenance techniques for rural roads
- Management and financing of rural roads
- Integrated development project and rural roads

The seminar languages will be English and French. Simultaneous translation will be provided.

Dates and deadlines:

Abstract submission: 30 June 2005

Notification of acceptance: 31 August 2005

Full papers: 30 November 2005

Abstracts should indicate, on top of the abstract sheet: Name, occupation and complete address of authors, title of proposed paper. Any person wishing to submit a paper or a poster on one or more of the topics listed above is requested to send an abstract (500 words max.) by 30 June 2005 by fax or by e-mail to one of the following addresses:

Direction des Routes et de la Circulation Routière, BP 6226, Rabat instituts –Rabat, Maroc. Fax: (+212)37713240, E-mail: imzel@mtpnet.gov.ma or: Association Nationale des Améliorations Foncière, de l’Irrigation et du Drainage; 1 Rue Haroune Errachid Agdal –Rabat, Maroc. Fax: (+212)37670303 E-mail: h.bartali@iav.ac.ma The latest information on the seminar can be found on the web sites www.piarc.org and www.anafid.org

2nd CIGR Section VI International Symposium “The Future of Food Engineering”

CIGR Section VI deals with the food engineering principles in minimally processed food achieved under process control. It is intended to follow the trends and promote sustainability in food production. Its missions are:

- to bring together all those that are working in food processing,
- to stimulate research and education in food engineering,
- to promote participation in CIGR activities,
- to determine the areas that should be investigated and implemented into food production by using friendly, non destructive technology,
- to advance in knowledge for the assurance of safety of all food products for human consumption.

In order to better fulfill its missions, CIGR Section VI is organizing the 2nd International Symposium on physical properties of food, raw materials and semi products as well as bioproducts processing and food safety in **Warsaw, Poland** from **26 to 28 April 2006**. This symposium will include a series of presentations and discussions in plenary, scientific and poster sessions, and informal gatherings to highlight the most recent developments in food processing technologies as well as sustainability in food production. The full proceedings of the Symposium will be published on CD-ROM and provided to all participants at the registration desk during the Symposium.

The Symposium is jointly organized by Lublin Agricultural University and Warsaw Agricultural University.

The topics to be covered include:

- Properties of raw materials influencing process and final product quality
- Quantified methods for food quality evaluating and standardization
- Postharvest preprocessing & on-farm analysis technology
- Small-scale and regional food processing
- Gastrotechnology and catering
- Theory of unit operations and processes
- Mechanical and thermal processing
- Emerging technologies
- Modelling of food texture and composition
- Extrusion and expanded products technologies
- Sensors in precision processing
- Tracking and traceability in controlling of food safety
- Energy saving in food chain
- Education and training for new challenges in food processing and quality management

You are invited to submit a paper to the Symposium on the Future of Food Engineering. Please note the following dates: Deadline for abstract submission: 15 September 2005
Notification of abstract acceptance: 30 September 2005
Deadline for full paper submission: 31 December 2005
Technical programme on website: 30 December 2005
For further information consult the Symposium web page at <http://www.cigr.pl> or contact the Conference Secretaries: Dr Agnieszka WIERZBICKA, Dr Andrzej POLTORAK and Dr Wojciech GOLIS, Warsaw Agricultural University, at ul. Nowoursynowska 159c, 02-776 Warsaw, Poland. E mail: cigr2006@cigr.pl or info@cigr.pl

CIGR Section I: Inter-Regional Conference on Environment-Water 2006

“Concepts for Water Management and Multifunctional Land Uses in Lowlands”

The 2006 Inter-Regional Conference on Environment and Water will be held at the Unesco IHE (International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering) at **Delft, the Netherlands**, from **17 to 19 May 2006**. Held under the patronage of CIGR Section I: “Land and Water Engineering” and of ISOMUL (International Studygroup on Multiple Uses of Land), the conference is organized by the NWP (Netherlands Water Partnership), and the Land Use Planning Group of WUR (Wageningen University and Research Centre) at Wageningen, the Netherlands.

Lowlands and more specifically delta regions and floodplains are often among the most densely populated places on earth. They also are often among the most prosperous regions, at least in a relative sense. However, with rapid population growth in such regions, the risks of floods and droughts are increasing, and salt water intrusion is expected to occur more widely. Climate change is likely to accelerate these trends. High population densities resulting in competing land claims and natural and human-induced geophysical changes such as soil subsidence, rising water tables and salinisation call for new planning approaches. A pro-active approach to reducing harmful impacts would be beneficial both from an environmental and an economic perspective.

The aims of the conference are: to explore and discuss the threats as well as the potentials for the lowlands and deltas of the future; to discuss the relationship of the intensification of farming in and around cities with the water management systems in lowlands and deltas; to study the potentials for the safeguarding of ecosystems and landscapes in these areas; to take up the challenge for new multifunctional land use concepts; to present and discuss methods on how to bring knowledge, ideas, visions and concepts to the market.

The Inter-Regional Conference Envirowater 2006 is dedicated in part to research projects and scientific presentations and discussions and in part to presentations and discussions of new concepts for the development of lowlands and deltas, including a one-day field trip in the Rhine Delta. Bringing together all the knowledge, experiments, visions, concepts, research and experiences on what to do with the future of our lowlands and deltas, the conference also addresses the need to integrate all these aspects for a comprehensive planning approach in delta-regions.

Oral presentations and poster sessions will deal with the following subjects:

I Opportunities and threats

- exploitation of natural resources
- changing land uses and societal impacts

II. Water and Climate change

- climate change and impacts on water resources
- climate change and sea level rise

III. Groundwater and salt water intrusion

- changes in quantity and quality of groundwater
- salt water intrusion and adaptive responses

IV. Water management systems as steering instrument for planning

- potentials and constraints of water management for land uses
- new concepts in water management for land uses

V. Multifunctional land uses as approach to the problems of lowlands and deltas

- multifunctional land and water uses
- new concepts, visions and examples in multifunctional land and water uses

The official language of the Conference will be English. Facilities will be provided for technical presentations including video and LCD projections for PC. Scientific papers will be reviewed by an international scientific committee and, if accepted, published in proceedings (on CD-ROM). A study tour will probably be held at the end of the conference. Private companies will be invited to present their latest equipment in a technical exhibition in relation to several topics of the Conference.

Important dates and deadlines:

Submission of abstracts: 1 October 2005

Acceptance notification/Author instructions: 1 Dec. 2005

Final manuscript received: 15 January 2006

Author instructions (paper/poster): 15 March 2006

Covering all technical and social sessions (welcome reception, conference dinner and technical tour), the registration fees will be approximately 300 Euros for regular participants, 250 Euros for students, and 50 Euros for accompanying persons. After 1 January 2006 they will be approximately 350 Euros for regular participants, 300 Euros for students, and 60 Euros for accompanying persons. A reduction of 20% in fees will be given to participants from Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. Proceedings will be available for participants only.

For further information visit the conference website at: <http://www.wau.nl/rpv/isomul/envirowater2006/> or contact the conference secretariat: Isomul, Land Use Planning Group, Wageningen University and Research Centre (WUR), Generaal Foulkesweg 13 6703 BJ, Wageningen, The Netherlands. Tel: +31(0)317-483849 Fax: +31(0)317-482166 Email: Envirowater2006@wur.nl

World Congress Bonn 2006

"Agricultural Engineering for A Better World"

CIGR, EurAgEng, VDI-MEG and FAO are delighted to invite you to their joint World Congress, which will be held from **3 to 7 September 2006** in **Bonn, Germany**. The World Congress will combine the “XVI CIGR World Congress” with “AgEng2006” and the “64th VDI-MEG International Conference Agricultural Engineering”. As part of the congress, FAO will hold a workshop on “Agricultural Engineering Contributions to Solve Future Agricultural Problems” covering two half days. Moreover, a preconference on “Automation Technology for Offroad Equipment” will be held immediately before the World Congress.

The following topics and sub-topics will be discussed:

I. Land & Water Use and Environment

II. Power and Machinery

- Tractors
 - Tillage & seeding
 - Fertilising & plant protection
 - Harvesting
 - Automation technology
- III. Information Systems and Precision Farming
- IV. Livestock Technology
- Structures
 - Environment
 - Precision livestock farming
- V. Processing & Post Harvest Technology and Logistics
- VI. Energy and Non-Food Production Technology
- VII. Systems Engineering and Management
- Emerging industrial products
 - Marketing
 - Service systems
 - Traceability
 - Work safety and ergonomics

- Farm management, calculation and planning
- VIII. Fruit & Vegetable Cultivation Systems
- Protected cultivation
 - Greenhouses
 - Equipment for tree crops
- IX. Global Issues
- Meeting needs of global markets for equipment
 - Technologies to enable agri-food exports
- Dates and deadlines:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Submission of abstracts | 1 February 2006 |
| Notification of acceptance | 15 March 2006 |
| List of Papers made available | 15 April 2006 |
| Submission of full papers | 1 June 2006 |
- For additional information please look up <http://www.2006cigr.org/> or contact: VDI-MEG, Graf-Recke-Strasse 84, 40239 Düsseldorf, Germany. Phone: +49 211 6214266 Fax: +49 211 6214177 E-mail: info@2006cigr.org

ACTIVITIES BY CIGR REGIONAL SOCIETIES

ASAE Annual International Meeting 2005

The American Society of Agricultural Engineers will hold its Annual International Meeting 2005 from **17 to 20 July, 2005**, at **Tampa, Florida, USA**.

The subject areas discussed at the meeting will be:

- Power & Machinery
- Soil & Water
- Information & Electrical Technologies
- Structures & Environment
- Ergonomics, Safety and Health
- Food Processing & Engineering
- Biological Engineering

Dates and deadlines:

Full papers for CD-ROM & Tech. Library 15 May 2005

End of early-bird registration 27 May 2005

For conference and exhibit information contact: Sharon McKnight Meetings and Conferences ASAE 2950 Niles Road St. Joseph, Michigan 49085 Tel. +1 269 428 6333 Fax: +1 269 429 3852 E-mail: mcknight@asae.org <http://www.asae.org/meetings/am2005/index.html>

International Agricultural Engineering Conference

Under the auspices of AAAE, this conference on the theme "Agricultural Engineering–Technologies and Future Trends" will be held at the Asian Institute of Technology in

Bangkok, Thailand, from 6 to 9 December 2005.

Topics:

- Power and machinery
- Food engineering and biotechnology
- Soil and water engineering
- Energy in agriculture
- Agricultural systems
- Structures and environment
- Electronics in agriculture
- Agro-industry
- Agricultural engineering education
- Agricultural waste management
- Ergonomics
- Terramechanics
- New materials and emerging technologies

Important dates:

Abstract submission: 30 April 2005

Full papers due: 1 August 2005

Early registration with payment due: 1 October 2005

For more information, please contact: The Secretariat, Attn.: Dr. Emmanuel C. Canillas, International Agricultural Engineering Conference, ASE SERD Asian Institute of Technology, P.O.Box 4 Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120, THAILAND. Tel.: +66 2 524 5494 Fax: +66 2 524 6200 E-mail: aaae@ait.ac.th emann@ait.ac.th

CIGR CO-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

IV International Scientific and Practical Conference on "Ecology and Agricultural Machinery"

This conference will be held at the North-West Research Institute of Agricultural Engineering and Electrification in **Saint Petersburg-Pushkin, Russia**, from **25 to 26 May 2005**. The conference languages will be Russian and English (translation provided). In the context of this

conference CIGR will hold Presidium, Executive Board and technical Board meetings.

The aims and objectives of the conference are:

- to present and discuss the latest and the most efficient developments in agricultural engineering and production aimed to reduce the negative impact of agricultural techniques and machinery on the environment

- to stimulate the wide extension of the most advanced concepts, experiences and investigation results and to promote international cooperation and "know-how" transfer
- to give researchers, agricultural machinery manufacturers and farmers from Russia, CIS and Western countries an opportunity to establish personal contacts and exchange opinions and ideas.

The organizers have the honour to invite you to participate in the conference within the framework of the following sections:

- New environmentally friendly cropping technologies and devices
- Ecology and energy saving in soil tillage
- Designing methods for site-specific technologies, machinery and equipment
- New environmentally friendly technologies and devices in livestock management
- Design and reconstruction of farm buildings for animal keeping
- Animal waste management
- Optimization of energy use in agriculture
- Renewable energy sources and their agriculture application
- Electrical safety
- Automation in farming
- Microclimate control
- Development of new, more effective agricultural machines, implements and equipment
- Agricultural tractors and power devices
- Manufacturing and testing of agricultural machinery
- Repairs and maintenance
- On-board microprocessors

The Conference Proceedings will consist of revised versions of the papers submitted. The registration fee of 200 Euros will cover admission to technical sessions, coffee/tea breaks and welcome party, Conference Proceedings, communication expenses, invitation required to obtain the entry visa to Russia, arrival and departure transfer.

Accommodation will be booked in the "Tsarskoselsky" Boarding House located in Pushkin or the "Pulkovskaya" Hotel in St-Petersburg, with the transportation of participants to the conference venue provided by the organizers. Optional professional meetings and/or visits in Saint Petersburg and the Leningrad region as well as sightseeing tours around Saint Petersburg and its suburbs will be organised at individual request and for separate payment. Instructions for registration fee payment will be given after receipt of the registration form.

Persons needing additional financial support to participate in the conference may apply to the Organizing Committee. For further information and online registration visit <http://www.sznii.ru/eng/konf/KonfGodi/2005/2005.htm> or contact Tel.: +7 812 4667804 Fax: +7 812 4665666, E-mail: nii@nevsky.net

PAWEES2005 International Conference on Management of Paddy and Water Environment for Sustainable Rice Production

With the co-sponsorship of CIGR Section I, this conference will be held at Kyoto University Clock Tower Centennial

Hall in the Kyoto University campus, **Kyoto, Japan, on 7 and 8 September, 2005**. PAWEES 2005 will be organised by the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering and co-organised by JSPS (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science), JSIDRE (Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage, and Reclamation Engineering), NIRE (National Institute for Rural Engineering, Japan), and KSAE (Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers).

Rice, which feeds a half of the world population, is the most important crop in the world and its production process generates millions of jobs. The future status of our societies depend on how we manage rice systems in a sustainable manner since rice is strongly linked to food security, poverty, and the natural environment of many regions. The conference will bring together leading representatives from academia and international authorities including experienced engineers.

The aim of this conference is twofold: a) information sharing of most recent researches on effectual technologies; and b) their application to sustainable water management in paddy fields.

Conference participants who wish to make oral presentations are invited to submit papers on various topics under the following three thematic areas:

- Multi-functionality or externality of paddy rice production system (Positive and negative functions, estimation of magnitude, policy implication, etc.)
- Integrated water management on paddy irrigation and drainage (River basin management, comprehensive assessment, participatory management, etc.)
- Environmental conservation and food security through improvement of rice production system (Ecosystem management, self-sufficiency, poverty alleviation, etc.)

Authors are requested to submit abstracts of their papers via e-mail to pawees2005@jsidre.or.jp, as an attachment in MSWord format, along with the registration/paper application form that can be downloaded from the conference website. The abstract should not be more than 250 words excluding the title of the paper, author name(s), affiliation(s), and keyword(s) that should be displayed at the top of the page. All submitted full papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

Dates and deadlines:

Announcement of acceptance:	28 April 2005
Submission of full paper:	10 July 2005
Registration period:	1 January - 10 July 2005
Conference programme available:	10 July 2005

The conference programme will be made available at the conference website. A Registration/Paper application form is available at the conference website. The registration fees, to be paid on 7 or 8 September at the conference registration desk, are 10,000 JPY or US\$100.

For further information please look up the conference website <http://www.jsidre.or.jp/pawees2005> or contact: Dr. Yutaka MATSUNO, Secretary General of the Secretariat of the Conference, Department of International Resources Management, Faculty of Agriculture, Kinki University, 3327-204 Nakamachi, Nara, 631-8505 JAPAN, e-mail: matsuno@nara.kindai.ac.jp or Ms. Sachiko YOSHITAKE, Chief Editor of JSIDRE, The Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Reclamation Engineering,

Shimbashi 5-34-4, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 105-0004 JAPAN, e-mail: pawees2005@jsidre.or.jp

5th ECPA and 2nd ECPLF

The 5th European Conference on Precision Agriculture and the 2nd European Conference on Precision Livestock farming will be held as parallel conferences from **9 to 12 June 2005** in **Uppsala, Sweden**. They will deal with the following main themes:

- Feed quality management
- On-farm analysis technology
- Robotics, autonomous vehicles and controlled traffic
- Environmental effects of precision agriculture and precision livestock farming
- Precision horticulture and viticulture
- Automation in livestock farming
- Implementation, education and training

Participants from the following countries may apply for travel grants: Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic Latvia, Hungary, aBulgaria. More information can be found at <http://www-conference.slu.se/ecpa/grants.htm>

More information and updates on the conferences can be found at <http://www-conference.slu.se/ecpa/index.htm> or <http://www-conference.slu.se/ecplf/index.htm> Contact the conference secretariat by fax under +46 18673530 or by e-mail at ecpa@slu.se or ecplf@slu.se

EFITA/WCCA2005

Organised by EFITA and co-sponsored, among others, by CIGR, FAO, and ASAE, the 5th Conference of the European Federation for Information Technology in Agriculture, Food and Environment (EFITA) and the 3^d World Congress on Computers in Agriculture and Natural Resources (WCCA) will be held as a joint conference in the Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, **Vila Real, Portugal** from **25 to 28 July 2005**. The conference language will be English.

This conference will provide a forum for agriculture related professionals to exchange information on applications and developments in the use of Information Technology. Contributions from various countries will allow a broadened perspective for all attending, and the Organising Committee particularly encourages participation from the New Member States of the EU and from the associated Candidate Countries.

To participate as authors of a paper to be included in the proceedings and to be presented orally or as a poster session, submit an extended abstract for consideration to efita.wcca2005@utad.pt. All submissions (4 pages max.) should be in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) and MS Word (.doc) format according to a template that can be downloaded from the conference website. To facilitate the reviewing process, authors are required to choose one or more of the following topics:

- Aquatic resource management
- Adoption and extension
- Dairy and animal production systems
- Decision support systems and modelling: farm management
- Decision support systems and modelling

- Education/training and distance learning/professional accreditation
- E-AgBusiness and production chain management
- Field data acquisition and recording
- Food safety control/tracking-tracing
- GIS and precision agriculture
- Grid Applications
- Information systems and databases
- Instrumentation and control
- Internet services
- Library science and knowledge representation
- Rural and environmental development and policy
- Wireless and sensor networks

The organizing committee accepts applications for half or full day workshops. Persons wishing to organize a Workshop should submit a proposal to efita.wcca2005@utad.pt. Proposals should clearly indicate the topic, background knowledge expected of the participants, objectives and Organising and Program Committees.

Dates and deadlines:

Camera-ready full papers: 2 May 2005

Early registration: 1 June 2005

The conference fee will be 350/400 € (before/after June 1, 2005). This covers workshop and conference sessions, all conference materials, welcome reception, four lunches, coffee breaks and a banquet. Participants wishing to hold a presentation must register by June 1, 2005. Only papers for which the registration fee is paid by that date will be published in the proceedings.

Additional information is available from the conference secretariat or from the conference website: EFITA/WCCA 2005, Edif. Engenharias II, Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, 5000-911 Villa Real, Portugal. <http://www.agriculturadigital.org/efitaandwcca2005/> Fax: +351 259 350480. E-mail: efita.wcca2005@utad.pt

International Conference on “Water, Land, and Food Security in Arid and Semi-arid Regions”

This conference will be held from **6 to 11 September 2005** at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, in **Valenzano, Italy**. With the co-sponsorship of CIGR Section I, the event is organized by CIHEAM/Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari and is sponsored by the Arab Water Council and IWRA.

Poster presentations and technical sessions opened by keynote presentations by outstanding international experts will cover the following major topics:

- Natural resources & food security (irrigated agriculture)
- Rainfed agriculture and food security
- Food security & use of non-conventional water resources
- Food security and new technologies
- Intensive agriculture and alarming pollution of land and water resources and food quality degradation
- Towards food security: the enabling conditions for effective involvement of stakeholders
- Economic aspects
- Capacity building improvement

All papers accepted as oral presentation or as poster will be included in the proceedings of the Conference and

distributed at the start of the event. Authors are requested to submit their papers by email to hamdy@iamb.it.

Dates and deadlines

Notification of acceptance: 20 May 2005

Full text of paper: 30 June 2005

The Conference will be conducted in English, with simultaneous English/French/Italian translation. Participants must arrange to obtain their own visa for entry into Italy. MAIBari offers a pre-arranged package including lodging and accommodation, local transportation, meals, field visits, proceedings and social events at an amount of 600 Euros (from the afternoon of Tuesday 6th to the forenoon of Sunday 11th).

For further information please contact: the Secretariat of the Conference, Mrs. Mervat Hassan; Responsible - Arab Water Council Secretariat, Cairo Office, Egypt. Tel. 00202 544 9442 Fax 00202 544 94 49 email: abu-zeid@mwri.gov.eg or Mrs. Camilla Caldarulo; Secretariat, Department of Research; CIHEAM/Mediterranean Agronomic Institute, Via Ceglie 9, 70010 – Valenzano(Bari), Italy. Tel. 0039 080 46 06 222 or 201. Fax 0039 080 46 06 206 Email: hamdy@iamb.it

7th Fruit, Nut, and Vegetable Production Engineering Symposium "Frutic 05"

This symposium will take place from **12 to 16 September 2005** in **Montpellier, France**. Under the title "Information and technology for sustainable fruit and vegetable production" the programme comprises the following topics concerning fruit (including wine grape), nut, vegetables and fresh cut perishables:

- Precision agriculture, including acquisition of satellite and airborne geo-referenced data
- Technological assistance to fruit and vegetable production: new tools enabling a more effective and environmental-friendly plant management, variety improvement in relation to automation of agricultural practices
- Sensors for collecting information either in field or for post-harvest applications
- Information processing and decision support systems both for agricultural and post-harvest management
- Post-harvest technology: relationship between technology and quality
- Data management: information systems, databank creation and sharing, e-trading

The official language is English. Simultaneous translation will not be provided. In a "young researcher" forum PhD students will be given an opportunity to present their studies.

Important dates:

Submission of corrected papers : 1 May 2005

For further information look up <http://www.frutic05.org/> or contact: Michèle EGEA, Phone :+33 467 046 386 Fax: +33 467 046 306 E-mail: Frutic05@montpellier.cemagref.fr

International Congress on "Efficiency and Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Mechanization"

This congress, co-sponsored by CIGR Technical Section III - "Equipment Engineering for Plant Production" – and

organised by the Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Water and Forest Research (Tunisia) in collaboration with the Tunisian Association of Agricultural researchers, will be held from **9 to 11 November 2005** in **Hammamet, Tunisia**.

The congress will focus on the following topics:

1. Parameters and concepts of optimal mechanization
 - Approaches and strategies of agricultural mechanization
 - Adaptability of mechanization to conventional cropping systems, farm types and socio-environmental concepts
 - Case studies
2. Technical efficiency of agricultural equipment
 - Modelling of soil-machine and plant-machine interaction
 - Optimization of technical efficiency parameters
 - Interaction between machine efficiency and the agro-socio-economic context
 - Technological innovations and decision support tools.
 - Technical and economical management
3. Environmental impact of agricultural mechanization
 - Soil and water conservation aspects
 - Non-pollutant aspects of spraying practices

Contributions in these and related areas are welcome.

Dates and deadlines:

Abstract submission: 5 May 2005

Notification of acceptance: 1 June 2005

Complete paper submission: 30 August 2005

Name list of accepted authors: 25 September 2005

The congress languages will be French and English; simultaneous translation will be provided.

For further information please look up <http://www.iresa.agrinet.tn/cma2005> or contact the Secretariat of cma2005: I.N.R.G.R.E.F., BP 10 – Ariana 2080 Tunisia. Tel.: +216 71 717 901 or +216 71 709 033 or +216 71 719 630 Fax: +216 71 717 951 E-mail: cma2005@iresa.agrinet.tn

International Symposium on "Water and Land Management for Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture"

This symposium will be held at the Mithat Ozsan Conference Hall of Cukurova University in **Adana, Turkey** from **4 to 8 April 2006**. Organised by Cukurova University and co-sponsored by CIGR along with CIHEAM/Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari and Kahramanmaras University, the Turkish Scientific Research Council, the Turkish Society of Agricultural Engineers and RIHN (Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto), the symposium will be dedicated to the memory of Prof. Osman Tekinel (1936-2004), a pioneer of agricultural water management in Turkey and the founder of Cukurova University and Kahramanmaras University.

This symposium will focus on the recent developments and accomplishments as well as the potential future issues that will be addressed in water and land management. The purpose of the symposium is to give an overview of recent developments and present new expectations from such developments, especially in light of continuous growth of the world population and the growing environmental concerns. The symposium aims to identify best management practices that will best harmonize sustainable use of water for agricultural production and livelihoods

with well-functioning ecosystems. The language of the symposium will be English.

Participants and contributors to the symposium are invited to submit presentations/papers dealing with the following topics:

- Integrated water and land management
- On-farm water and soil management
- Performance evaluation and integrated management of irrigation and drainage systems
- Irrigation efficiency and associated economics
- Irrigation: poverty alleviation and food security improvement
- Demand water management in irrigation sector
- Water valuation in the irrigation sector, cost coverage, tariff system and rate level: opportunities and constraints
- Water scarcity, water harvesting
- Conjunctive use of water to optimize food production
- Virtual water concept and food security
- Policy options for water saving in irrigation
- Management transfer and participatory irrigation and drainage management
- Application of information technology in irrigation and drainage management
- Water quality/salinity management
- Role of irrigation in environmental fate of nutrients (N and P)
- Unconventional water use and environmental impacts
- Impacts of climate change on hydrological regimes and water resources
- Legal and institutional challenges
- Capacity building in water and land management
- Gender issues in water and land management

Abstracts should be limited to 400 words. They should concisely state the objectives, methodology and the main results of the work reported on. Papers will be selected on the basis of the suitability to the symposiums' topics and the papers' quality. After acceptance, the authors will receive detailed guidelines for the preparation of the full-length manuscript, which will be refereed by an International Scientific Committee and, if necessary, returned for amendments. The proceedings will be made available to participants at registration.

During the Sessions, there will be oral presentations by invited keynote speakers. The program in its final form will be provided in due time. Poster presentations on all the

themes will also be organized.

Registration fees are 200 US Dollars (150 Euros) for participants from developed countries, 100 US Dollars (75 Euros) for participants from developing countries, and 50 US Dollars (35 Euros) for young professionals (under 35 years of age).

Important Deadlines

Abstract submission: 15 July 2005

Notification of acceptance: 15 September 2005

Paper submission: 15 January 2006

For further information please contact the Secretariat: Dr. Attila YAZAR, Cukurova University, Irrigation and Agricultural Structures Department, 01130 Adana, Turkey. Tel.: +90 322 3386515, Fax: +90 322 3386386, Email: symp2006@cu.edu.tr

V CIACH: The Agricultural Engineering Specialization in a Globalized World

Co-sponsored by CIGR and organised by the Agricultural Engineering School of the University of Concepción and the National Agricultural Research Institute, the 5th International Congress of Agricultural Engineering will be held from **10 to 12 May 2006**, at the University of Concepción, **Chillán** Campus, **Chile**. The main topics to be covered in oral or poster presentations are:

- Computer aids and automation in agriculture
- Agricultural mechanization
- Energy in agriculture
- Water resources in agriculture
- Food engineering
- Post-harvesting processing
- Civil work for agricultural use
- Sustainable agriculture and environment
- Biological system engineering
- Teaching on agricultural engineering

Important dates:

Notification of acceptance: 30 April 2005

Extended papers: 31 July 2005

The conference fees are US \$ 140/160 (before/after July 30, 2005) and US \$ 50 for students. Further information: "V Congreso Internacional de Ingeniería Agrícola", Av. Vicente Méndez 595, Casilla 537, Chillán, Chile. Tel.: + 56 42 208709 Fax: +56 42 275303 Email: ciach@udec.cl <http://www.udec.cl/ciach>

OTHER ACTIVITIES

4th Agricultural Engineering Conference of Central and East European Countries

This conference will take place from **12 to 13 May 2005** in **Moscow** under the auspices of Academician Romanenko G.A., President of the Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences. It will be held in the State Scientific Institution "All Russian Research Institute for Electrification of Agriculture", which is situated in the Eastern part of Moscow near the "Ryazansky Prospect" metro station.

Papers are invited on the following topics:

- Energy for rural development
- Renewable energy

- Milk farm mechanization
- Non-food technologies

Papers will be presented in plenary and poster sessions. The registration fee is 350 Euros. For further information please contact: SSI The All-Russian Research Institute for electrification of Agriculture; 2, 1-st Veshnyakovsky proezd; 109456, Moscow, Russia. Tel.: +7 095 171 2641 Fax: +007 095 170 5101 E-mail: viesh@dol.ru

Seventh International Livestock Environment Symposium

Hosted by China Agricultural University and sponsored by

ASAE, this symposium will take place from **18 to 20 May 2005** in **Beijing, China**. The technical program addresses interrelated current and emerging issues regarding the assessment and refinement of animal environment, as well as production systems that aim to enhance animal health/well-being and production sustainability:

- Animal behavior
- Animal welfare and environmental stressors
- Economic considerations
- Environmental control systems
- Feeding systems
- Food quality and safety effects
- Heat and moisture generation
- Heating, cooling & tempering systems
- Human health and safety
- Hygiene, biosecurity, and disease control
- Indoor air quality
- Innovative housing and production systems
- Interactions w/nutrition, reproduction, etc.
- Lighting and Acoustics
- Management systems and practices
- Measurement & monitoring systems
- Modeling of animal systems and response
- Socialization & feeding behavior
- Transportation of animals
- Ventilation systems and performance

The official language of the symposium will be English. A visa and passport may be required. For further information contact: Yuanhui Zhang, Symposium Chair, University of Illinois, Dept of Agricultural Engineering, 332-C 1304 W Pennsylvania Ave, Urbana, Illinois 61801 USA. Tel. +1 2173332693 Fax: +1 2172440323 Email: iles7info@asae.org
<http://www.asae.org/meetings/iles7/index.html>

8th Workshop on Spray Application Techniques in Fruit Growing

The 8th Workshop on Spray Application Techniques in Fruit Growing will be held in **Barcelona, Spain** from **29 June 29 to 1 July 2005**.

Topics:

- Novel spray application technology
- Performance of fruit crop sprayers
- Testing and adjustment of fruit crop sprayers
- Filling and cleaning of sprayers
- Nozzles, adjuvants, atomisation and spray quality
- Precision fruit crop spraying
- Decision support systems in plant protection
- Spray drift
- Spray optimisation in plantation crops
- Risk assessment and management in fruit growing
- Dose rates determination in fruit crops
- Methodology of research on spray application

Registration fees are 200/220 Euros before/after May 15, 2005. Substract 120 Euros to calculate student fees.

Dates and deadlines

Workshop early registration: 15 May 2005

Submission of full papers: 29 June 2005

For further information, please contact the workshop secretary: Cristina Escobar González, Universitat

Politècnica de Catalunya, Escola Superior d'Agricultura de Barcelona, Departament d'Enginyeria Agroalimentària i Tecnologia, C/ Urgell, 187, 08036 Barcelona, SPAIN Tel.: + 34 93413 7548 Fax: + 34 934137501 E-mail: sprayfruit.2005@upc.es www.insad.pl/sprayfruit2005.htm

19th International ICID Congress & 56th International Executive Council Meeting

From **10 to 18 September 2005**, the 19th International Congress of ICID and the 56th International Executive Council Meeting will take place in **Beijing, China**.

The main topics of this congress events are:

- Improving water and land management for ncreasing efficiency in irrigated agriculture
- Harmonious coexistence with flood water
- Legal and institutional challenges
- Water quality/salinity management
- Management of historical/traditional irrigation projects

All congress activities will take place at the Beijing International Convention Center. Registration fees are USD 800/850 (before/after 1 July 2005) for member country (region) delegates, USD 850/900 for non-member country (region) delegates, and USD 400 for young professionals, i.e. those under 40 years old as of 18 Sep 2005. For further information look up <http://www.icid2005.org/>

IUSS Conference on Salinisation

This conference will take place from **19 to 22 September 2005** at the Palace the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in **Budapest, Hungary**. The lectures and poster presentations of the conference will deal with the following subjects:

- Remote sensing and GIS in the assessment, mapping and monitoring of salinity/sodicity/alkalinity status of soils
- Assessment of soil salinity/sodicity/alkalinity with new laboratory and field techniques
- Agrogeological problems related to salinization/sodicitation/alkalization
- Ecology and soil-plant correlations in native salt-affected habitats
- Mapping of salt-affected soils based on environmental correlation
- The role of geological and other environmental conditions in the genesis of saline and sodic soils
- Groundwater depth, concentration and its relationship with salinization/sodicitation/alkalization of soils
- Classification of salt-affected soils for international correlation, land use and land evaluation
- Modern methods for the characterization and diagnosis of physico-chemical and colloid-chemical properties of sodic soils
- New approaches and results in the amelioration of sodic soils, under irrigation and rain fed conditions (chemical, agrotechnical, biological and complex amelioration practices, afforestation measures)
- Protection of saline lakes, grasslands and other salt-affected habitats
- Ecological consequences of soil amelioration
- Spatial and temporal changes in salinity/sodicity/alkalinity status of salt-affected areas
- Prevention and prediction of secondary

salinization/sodicization/alkalization due to irrigation

- Use of saline waters in agriculture
- Legal aspects of irrigation-induced salinization
- Prevention of ecological catastrophes and other off-site consequences of secondary salinization
- Increase of public awareness and education for the prevention of secondary salinization

The registration fees are 300/360 Euros for industry participants, 250/300 for academic participants, and 150/200 for students (before/after 31 May 2005).

Dates and deadlines:

Abstract submission: 31 May 2005

Registration & early payment: 31 May 2005

Confirmation of registration by: 17 June 2005

For further information please look up

<http://www.mozaik.hu/iuss/> or contact the Scientific Secretariat/Chief Organizer: Tibor Tóth, Research Institute for Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Herman O. 15, 1022 MTA TAKI Budapest, HUNGARY, e-mail: tibor@rissac.hu, Fax: +36 1 3564682 Tel.: +36 1 2243 616 or the Organizing Secretariat: Katalin Hajós, HAS Office for International Cooperation, Nádor u. 7. 1051 Budapest, e-mail: khajos@office.mta.hu, Fax: +36 1 4116370, Tel. +36 1 327 3000 /ext. 2526

III World Congress on Conservation Agriculture

This congress, organised by the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT), the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kenya, and the Kenya Conservation Tillage Initiative (KCTI) in association with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), will take place in **Nairobi, Kenya**, from **3 to 7 October 2005**.

Focusing on the main theme "Linking Production, Livelihoods and Conservation", it will deal with the following sub-themes:

- CA in building communities resilience and ability to provide for own livelihood and development needs
- CA in mitigating/alleviating effects of social ills such as HIV-Aids, urbanisation and declining interest in farming, especially among the young.
- Socio-economic, cultural, agro-ecological and technical factors in sustainable adoption of CA
- Soil life, biodiversity and agriculture
- Policies and infrastructure support in enhancing CA adoption
- CA contributing to global environmental quality concerns (carbon sequestration, green-house effect, etc.)
- Empowering farmers and farmer groups/associations in development and adoption of CA
- Effective research and dissemination strategies for CA adoption
- Stakeholder partnership and collaboration, including across sectors and disciplines
- Information-knowledge management

Important deadline:

Submission of full papers 30 June 2005

The official languages of the congress will be English and French (with simultaneous translation). Please register online or download the congress registration form from the

Congress website. For further information contact: IIIWCCA Secretariat, No. 9, Balmoral Road, Borrowdale, Harare, Zimbabwe. Email: actnetwork@africaonline.co.zw Tel: +263 4 882107 Fax: +263 4 885596 <http://www.act.org.zw/Congress/index.html>

HYDRO 2005: Policy into Practice

This conference will be held in **Villach, Austria** from **17 to 20 October 2005**. Topics:

- Policy into practice
- Innovation, best practice and environmental sustainability
- Maximizing the benefits of hydropower
- Longevity of hydro plants
- Learning from experience (successes and failures)

Dates and deadlines:

Notification of acceptance May 2005

Full paper submission 29 July 2005

Final Bulletin June 2005

For additional information contact: Hydro 2005, Mrs Margaret Bourke, Aqua~Media International, Westmead House, 123 Westmead Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4JH, UK. Fax: + 44 20 8643 8200. Email: hydro2005@hydropower-dams.com <http://www.hydropower-dams.com/>

International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage: Cuba-Irrigation 2005

The Irrigation and Drainage Research Institute (IDRI), belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture in Cuba, invites you to participate in the International Congress to be held in **25-28 October 2005 in Havana, Cuba**. The conference languages will be English and Spanish.

The main topics for discussion are:

- Irrigation and drainage technologies
- Modernizing and maintenance of irrigation and drainage systems
- Environmental and social impact of irrigation and drainage
- Protection rules against tropical hurricanes
- Application of plastics in the efficient use of water for irrigable areas

Participants requiring an Invitation Card to get permission from their institutions may request one from the President of the Organizing Committee. The congress fees are \$ 200.00 USD for delegates and \$ 60.00 USD for their companions. For further information please contact Dr. A. Reynaldo Rey García, President of the Organizing Committee, P.O.B: 6090, Havana, Cuba. Tel.: (537)911038, Fax: (537)917595 e-mail: iird@ceniai.inf.cu <http://www.loseventos.cu/cuba-riego2005>

International Training Workshop on Protected Agriculture

This workshop, sponsored by the Department of International Cooperation of the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology and organised by Yangling Demonstration Zone of Agricultural High-Tech Industries will be held in **Yangling, Shaanxi Province, China**, from **21 November to 4 December 2005**.

Inter alia, participants will be expected to present papers on

the following topics:

- The recent development of protected agriculture in the participant's country
- Research and application of new technology of protected agriculture
- Key issues and problems in protected agriculture

For further information, please contact Mr Wang Jucang, Int'l Exchange Center, Yangling Demonstration Zone of Agricultural High-Tech Industries, 1 Xingquiao North Road, Yangling – Shaanxi 712100, China. Tel.: +86 29870 36980 Fax: +86 29 87036061 E-mail: wjc@ylagri.gov.cn

14th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition

Subtitled "Biomass for Energy, Industry and Climate Protection", this event is scheduled to take place from **17 to 21 October 2005 in Paris, France**. It will comprise plenary lectures describing the state-of-the-art in biomass technology; oral and visual presentations of research, development, demonstration and commercial projects; workshops on specific Biomass issues; an exhibition of biomass products, utilisation and conversion technologies.

The following topics will be discussed:

- Biomass resources
- Research and development of bioenergy conversion technology systems
- Demonstration and market implementation of bioenergy in the heat and electricity sector
- Demonstration and market implementation of bioenergy in the transportation sector
- Application of biomass for energy, industrial products
- Economics and benefits deriving from biomass process technologies, integration and simultaneous production
- International biofuels trade, strategy, policy and climate protection issues
- International co-operation for accelerating the large-scale worldwide deployment of bioenergy
- Biomass in the developing world

Dates and deadlines:

Notification of acceptance: 31 May 2005

Papers presented at the conference will be published in the Proceedings. For further information, look up <http://www.conference-biomass.com/> For enquiries concerning abstract submission, please contact: ETA - Florence Attn.: Eng. Silvia Vivarelli Tel: +39 055 500 2174 Email: biomass.conf@eta.orence.it

Annual Scientific Conference and General Meeting of TSAE

The 2005 Annual Scientific Conference and General Meeting of the Tanzania Society of Agricultural Engineers (TSAE) will be held at the former TANESCO Training Centre, **Morogoro, Tanzania** from **21 to 23 November 2005**. The TSAE 2005 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at the end of the Scientific Conference on 23 November 2005. The main theme will be "Agricultural Mechanization and Industrialization in Developing Countries: Addressing the Problems of the Poor".

Topics:

- Agricultural mechanization
- Industrialization
- Information and communications technologies (ICTs)
- Energy saving technologies
- Post harvest technologies
- Job creation, entrepreneurship, income generation
- Education and training
- Environmental issues
- Water supply and sanitation
- Gender issues
- Role of the private sector
- HIV/AIDS.

Deadlines:

Abstracts 30 April 2005

Full papers 15 August 2005

The Secretary, Tanzania Society of Agricultural Engineers (TSAE), P.O. Box 3003, CHUO KIKUU, MOROGORO. TANZANIA. Tel: +255 23 2604216; +255 23 2603511-4 Ext. 4433; Fax: +255 23 2603718. E-mail: tsae@suanet.ac.tz <http://eng.suanet.ac.tz/>

PUBLICATIONS

CIGR Electronic Journal: <http://cigr-ejournal.tamu.edu/>

CIGR Handbook of Agricultural Engineering

Edited by CIGR and published by ASAE. Five volumes, 2,400 pages, 110 authors. The books are available in CD-ROM and individual hardcover book format. Further information: ASAE; Dept. 1661, 2950 Niles Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085-9659; USA, Tel: 616-428-6324; Fax: 616-429-3852 E-mail: martin@asae.org

Yearbook Agricultural Engineering 17 (2005)

Volume 17 (2005) of the *Jahrbuch Agrartechnik / Yearbook Agricultural Engineering*, edited by F. Meier and H.-H. Harms, is now available. Contributions appear in English as well as German. The publication is available for

50.50 Euros from the publisher: Landwirtschaftsverlag Münster-Hiltrup, Germany. Tel.: +49 (0) 2501 80 13 00, Fax: +49 (0) 2501 80 13 51, EMail: Service@lv-h.de. Purchase order number 75065. ISBN 3-7843-3345-1

CIGR E-Journal: ISSN 1682-1130

Since the last issue of the CIGR Newsletter the following papers have been published in Volume VII (2005) of the *CIGR E-Journal / Agricultural Engineering International: The CIGR Journal of Scientific Research and Development Peer Reviewed Original Research Articles*

1.) A. Tambunan, Y. Sagara, Y. Seo, and Y. Kawagoe. Image Analysis on Temperature Distribution within Lettuce

Undergoing Vacuum Cooling. Manuscript FP 04 002. January.

2.) S. Nimmermark and G. Gustafsson. Influence of Temperature, Humidity, and Ventilation Rate on the Release of Odour and Ammonia in a Floor Housing System for Laying Hens. Manuscript BC 04 008. March.

3.) S. Hassan-Beygi and B. Ghobadian. Noise Attenuation Characteristics of Different Road Surfaces During Power Tiller Transport. Manuscript PM 04 009. Vol.VII. March.

4.) L. Pan, P. Shao, and S. Jiang. Separation of Phytosterol and Synthesized VE Succinate from Rapeseed Oil Deodorizer Distillate. Manuscript FP 04 010. March.

5.) S. Shrestha, F. Kazama, Y. Sakamoto, and S. Bastola. Statistical Modeling of Pollutant Load in Subbasins of the Fuji River Basin, Japan. Manuscript LW 05 001. March.

6.) M. Rijo and C. Arranja. Hydraulic Performance of a Downstream Controlled Irrigation Canal Equipped with Different Offtake Types. Manuscript LW 04 014. March.

Invited Overview Articles

1.) L. Pereira. Water and Agriculture: Facing Water Scarcity and Environmental Challenges. Invited Overview. February.

2.) A. Raji and A. Olamutu. Prospects of Computer Vision Automated Sorting Systems in Agricultural Process Operations in Nigeria. Invited Overview. February.

3.) J. Yuan. The Status of China's Agricultural Machinery Industry and the Prospects for International Cooperation. Invited Overview. Club of Bologna. March.

4.) S. Li. Agricultural Mechanization Promotion in China-Current Situation and Future. Invited Overview. Club of Bologna. March.

5.) G. Gavioli. Cost Benefits of the Platform Principles for Tractors and Other Agricultural Machinery. Invited Overview. Club of Bologna. March.

7.) A. Segre and H. Petrics. EU Enlargement and its Influence on Agriculture and Mechanisation. Invited Overview. Club of Bologna. March.

MISCELLANEOUS

ICID WatSave Awards 2005

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was established in 1950 as a scientific, technical and voluntary non-profit, non-governmental international organization with headquarters in New Delhi. The mission of the ICID is to stimulate and promote the development and application of the arts, sciences and techniques of engineering, agriculture, economics, and ecological and social sciences in managing water and land resources for irrigation, drainage and flood management applications, including research and capacity building for achieving sustainable irrigated agriculture. ICID has a network of 104 member countries worldwide, covering about 260 million hectares of irrigated area, which is 96% of the world's total irrigated area. ICID strives to promote water saving/conservation programmes to enhance sustainable development of irrigated agriculture.

Since 1998 the ICID has been awarding WatSave Awards to recognise outstanding contributions of professionals to water saving/conservation for sustainable irrigated

agriculture. The awards are presented at the annual meeting of the International Executive Council (IEC) of the ICID. So far, 17 professionals from different regions of the world have been honoured with "ICID WatSave awards".

There are three categories of awards viz., Technology Award, Innovative Water Management Award, and Young Professionals Award. Each award carries a prize money of US\$ 2,000 and a Citation. The WatSave Award 2005 will be presented during the 56th IEC of ICID at Beijing in September 2005. The last date of receipt of nominations at the Central Office ICID, New Delhi through the concerned national Committee of ICID, is **31 May 2005**. Interested persons should submit their nominations electronically through the National Committee of ICID where the applicant is working. Nominations received by the New Delhi Office directly and/or without validation by the concerned National Committee will not be considered. A list of ICID national committees is available on the ICID website at <http://www.icid.org/nc1.html>

Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Director I, New Delhi

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

CIGR GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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Deadline for CIGR Newsletter N° 71 is 15 June 2005

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