Newsletter No. 79
November 2007

Since 1930–2007
77 Years of CIGR

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CIGR Website: http://www.cigr.org/
Dear colleagues,

The grant of the Nobel Peace Prize to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which works directly with the issues related to climate change, and to the former United States Vice President Albert Gore, is a clear indication that this subject has been driven to its limits; it has reached the boundary of the near future of the world.

Of late, an increase in agricultural production has met the rapidly rising demand for food and fiber with a huge cost to the environment and humanity. The increase in the global population is associated with a lack of cultivated areas for food crop expansion, and extensive animal production leads the food yield to search for adequate use of life support systems. However, increasing both crop and animal productions may raise the emission of effluents and drive sustainability to its limits.

The increase in crop yields achieved today has only been made possible through the use of technological innovations; therefore, it seems logical to conclude that the future increase in both animal and crop production can be achieved in the same manner. This topic is quite important; as Agricultural Engineering plays a significant role in the future of food, fiber and bioenergy production, we must constantly address this matter during our meetings.

Nations are beginning to understand that the Earth is a rather fragile ecosystem and that its boundaries have long been broken. Most developed countries have reached their agricultural potential, achieving maximum productivity with today’s available technology; however, in underdeveloped countries, mainly in Africa, there is a struggle to produce food for increasing populations, often without sufficient technology, and with large pending foreign debts. How can the new trends of life support systems address the need to find a proper balance by utilising the planet’s potential for absorbing the amount of residues left by industrial food production? The application of sustainability principles to Agricultural Engineering concepts provides the direction we must follow.

The prospective role of Agricultural Engineering was a major subject of discussion during the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean Society of Agricultural Engineering (KSAE), hosted by President Jeong-Jae Lee in Seoul last October. In addition to the president of CIGR, in attendance were the presidents of several societies from a large number of countries, including Australia, China, Japan, and the United States. During the event, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by CIGR and KSAE aiming for cooperation in all fields of Agricultural Engineering. I personally thank all my colleagues from KSAE who made my stay in Seoul pleasant and fruitful.

This has been a special celebration year with CIGR-affiliated ASABE, which is also commemorating its centennial. This indicates that Agricultural Engineering has come a long way; furthermore, we must look ahead in continuing to play a major role in the worldwide development of agriculture. Let us all work towards this goal.

Irenilza de Alencar Naas
President of CIGR

From the Chair of the Ad hoc Committee for the CIGR Website

During the 2006 CIGR Congress in Bonn, the Presidium appointed a CIGR Website Committee to redesign the commission’s web page in an effort to improve services to the membership and improve internal communications. A plan and budget were developed and approved. The project was divided into 3 stages:

1. The creation of a public web page, 2. creation of an internal web page (intranet) and 3. integration of e-commerce capabilities.

Substantial progress was made in creating the new design for the CIGR web page (stage 1) and it is now nearing completion. During this year’s Presidium Meeting in Glasgow, Scotland, the CIGR Website Implementation Committee presented a β version of the site to the Presidium. The website was thoroughly reviewed for content, usability and general appearance. The proposed test site was approved for deployment after some minor changes were made. The web page is now nearing completion and can be accessed at http://www.cigronline.com. The web page will soon be moved to its final destination at www.cigr.org

The 2nd stage of this project, which has already been initiated, will include the introduction of an Intranet with a supporting platform to facilitate communication and internal collaboration amongst CIGR technical sections and working groups.

Please direct your comments about the website to Fedro Zazueta at fsz@ufl.edu

16 Oct. 2007

Prof. Dr. Fedro Zazueta
Director, Office of Academic Technology
University of Florida
CIGR World Congresses and Conferences, 2008–2014

CIGR International Conference on Agricultural Engineering,

31 August–4 September 2008, Rio, Brazil,

http://www.acquacon.com.br/icae/

Call for Papers

Deadline: 10 February 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I invite you all to visit the website of the CIGR Conference 2008 in Brazil at http://www.acquacon.com.br/icae/

Time passes so quickly; the CIGR Conference 2008, nicknamed CIGR 2008, is around the corner. As you have seen in browsing the website, the deadline for submitting abstracts is nearly upon us (February 2008).

The local organizing task force has put all its effort into preparing the most appropriate infrastructure in order to assure both international and national participants a safe and pleasant stay in Brazil.

As previously advertised, CIGR 2008 was designed as a large umbrella for several simultaneous thematic conferences with the goal of promoting the interaction between all the sections of CIGR, while at the same time, avoiding overlapping activities, and in this way, optimizing the agenda of international meetings.

The chairs and co-chairs of the conference activities will receive their tasks soon.

Please take the time to pre-register; this will help us to achieve the right dimension of the whole Conference.

We will keep you informed of incoming activities.

Best regards,

CIGR 2008 Organising Committee

Dates and Deadlines

10 November 2007–10 February 2008 – Submission of papers (please use template file)
15 March 2008 – Notification of acceptance
15 June 2008 – Registration for authors with discount
31 August to 4 September 2008 – Conference

Local Organizing Committee

- President of Local Committee
  Irenilza de Alencar Nääs – CIGR
- Vice President
  Marcos Vinicius Folegatti – SBEA
- Members
  Adriana G. de Menezes, FEAGRI/UNICAMP – Brazil

Daniel F. de Carvalho, UFRRJ – Brazil
Daniella Jorge de Moura, FEAGRI/UNICAMP – Brazil
Ednilton T. de Andrade, UFF – Brazil
Evandro C. Mantovani, Embrapa – Brazil
Jarbas Honório de Miranda, ESALQ/USP – Piracicaba
José Renato Zanini, UNESP – Brazil
Rouverson P. da Silva, UNESP – Brazil

For more information, contact
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The 17th CIGR World Congress 2010
Québec, Canada, 13–17 June 2010

http://www.bioeng.ca/Events/CIGR/index.htm

The International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (http://www.ucd.ie/cigr/) will hold its 17th World Congress in Québec City, Canada, from 13–17 June 2010. The Canadian Society for Bioengineering, la Société canadienne de génie agroalimentaire et de bioingénierie (CSBE/SCGAB), will be the host Society (http://www.bioeng.ca/).

The theme of the Congress is ‘Sustainable Biosystems through Engineering’. The local organising committee is planning several exciting events that will make your stay in Québec City a truly memorable one. Québec is one of the oldest cities in North America, celebrating its 400th anniversary in 2008.

Eastern Canada offers excellent opportunities for technical, historical and natural science exploration. Plan to share your most recent discoveries in the areas of agricultural, food and biosystems engineering with colleagues from around the world. Mark the dates (13–17 June 2010), so you can participate in the progress and development of the trends in your field.

More detailed information about the 17th CIGR World Congress 2010 will appear on this site in the near future.

You may also contact the following persons:
Chair of the local organizing committee
Dr Stéphane Godbout, ing., agr.
Institut de recherche et de développement en agroenvironnement
stephane.godbout@irda.qc.ca

Chair of the scientific program committee
Dr Philippe Savoie, ing., agr.
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
savoiep@agr.gc.ca

CIGR International Conference 2012

Some societies had submitted applications to host the CIGR International Conference 2012 and the offers were discussed at the CIGR meeting in Glasgow. The host will be determined at the CIGR International Conference in Rio in 2008.

18th CIGR World Congress 2014
September 2014, Beijing, China

Sponsors
The sponsors of the CIGR World Congress 2014 will include many international and national organizations engaged in agricultural engineering. The proposed sponsors are as follows:
- International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (CIGR)
- Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM)
- Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE)

Co-sponsors
- China Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers
- China Food and Packaging Machinery Industry Association
- Local government offices and local, regional and international associations, societies and institutions engaged in agricultural engineering, which will be included later.

Organisers
- Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS)
- Chinese Academy of Agricultural Engineering (CAAE)
- China Agricultural University

Topics
- Land and water engineering
- Farm buildings, equipment, structures and environment
- Equipment engineering for plant production
- Rural electricity and other energy resources
- Management, ergonomics and systems engineering
- Post-harvest technology and processing engineering
- Information systems

The detailed programme will be finalised later by the respective CIGR sections.

Time and venue
September 2014, Beijing

Since the 2008 Olympics will be held in Beijing, more convention centres and hotels with excellent facilities for holding large-scale meetings will be made available. Many more options will become available according to the scale and activities of the Congress.

2. NEWS FROM NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SOCIETIES

Contributions from regional and national members

Regional and national member associations of CIGR are invited to intensify their use of the CIGR Newsletter and the CIGR web page www.cigr.org in making their news available to an international audience. Announcements of forthcoming events as well as conference reports and organisational announcements etc. are welcome to be submitted to the CIGR General Secretariat for publication in the CIGR Newsletter. Likewise, the CIGR web page at http://www.cigr.org/ is a good place for hyperlinks to websites dealing with agricultural engineering. The regional and national member societies of CIGR are invited to suggest suitable websites to the CIGR General Secretariat and to include hyperlinks to cigr.org in their own websites.
Message from the Chair of SEAg & the Scientific Committee and Information for the Society for Engineering in Agriculture

2009 International Conference
September 2009
Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Pre-Release Notice

Dear Conference Delegates,

I hope you all returned safely to your Institutes/Universities and are busy getting back to your normal work routine. SEAg also hopes that while you are getting back to normality, you will occasionally ‘gaze in the distance’ and remember the good times you had during the recent Adelaide SEAg Conference!

(Society for Engineering in Agriculture 2007 National Conference, Agriculture and Engineering Challenge Today, Technology Tomorrow, 23–26 September 2007, Adelaide, South Australia)

I would like to thank everyone for making the effort to attend, especially our overseas colleagues who travelled many miles to join us at the Conference.

On a professional level, we certainly had a very informative conference (thanks to the tireless work of the members of the Conference committees, including Darren, Chris, Tim, Erik, Richard, Guang and Paul), but I also sensed that people had a good time socially as well. That is a highly important aspect of a successful event, as networking is very much a part of the ‘Conference experience’.

Given the fact that (we believe!) everyone had a good time, we look forward to seeing you again in Queensland in 2009. Please promote the event at your respective organisations by using the attached ‘preliminary notice’.

During the conference, we elected a new National Committee and I am certain that we will see a renewed sense of enthusiasm and thus, a greater number of activities within the Society in the next few years. As a member (or supporting member) of the Australian Agricultural Engineering Society (SEAg) I would like to invite you to take ownership of our organisation and participate in the planning and execution of future SEAg activities, including the 2009 Conference.

In the meantime, if you have any comments, suggestions and/or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of my colleagues on the National Committee.

Best regards

PS: If you have any pictures you would like to share, please send them to Dr Chris Saunders (chris.saunders@unisa.edu.au), so we can post them on the conference website for everyone to enjoy!

Dr Thomas Banhazi (Senior Research Scientist)
Chair - SEAg and Scientific Committee (2009)
South Australian Research and Development Institute
LSA Roseworthy Campus, University of Adelaide
Roseworthy SA, 5371 Australia
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Fax: (08) 8303 7975 or (08) 8303 7689
Email: Banhazi.Thomas@saugov.sa.gov.au

VIII CLIA 2008

VIII Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Agricultural Engineering
7–9 May, 2008, Managua, Nicaragua
www.clia2008.uni.edu.ni

The VIII CLIA will be held in Managua, Nicaragua from 7 to 9 of May, 2008. Papers in Spanish, Portuguese or English will be accepted

Subject areas:
Soil and water engineering; power and machinery; Food and process engineering; Agric. structures and environment; energy in agriculture; biosystems engineering; information technology; agricultural engineering education, regional agriculture integration

Important deadlines:
Submission of abstracts: Before January 15, 2008
Full paper: March 30, 2008
For any further information, please contact:
Ing. Horacio Gonzalez at: horaciogonzalez1961@hotmail.com
Dr. Efraim Chamorro at: echamorro@uni.edu.ni

Prof. Omar Ulloa
President Latin American and Caribbean Society of Agricultural Engineering (ALIA)

ASABE 2008 Annual International Meeting
29 June–2 July
Providence, Rhode Island, USA
http://www.asabe.org/meetings/aim2008/index.htm

The technical sessions at the meeting are divided into the following subject areas:

Division Programme Chairs
Vice Chair & Other - Adel Shirmohammadi
Biological Engineering - Yanbin Li
CSBE - Stefan Cenkowski
Education - S. Andy Hale
Ergonomics, Safety & Health - Gary T. Roberson
Food & Process Engineering - Parameswarakum Mallikarjunan
Information & Electrical Technologies - Robert S. Freeland International - Israel S. Dunmade
Power & Machinery - Larry J. Hoover
Structures & Environment - Ronaldo Maghirang
Soil & Water - Fadi Z. Kamand
Energy (T-11) - William W. Casady

Deadlines
15 November 2007, Presentation proposals due to ASABE headquarters
November 2007, Session organizers notify authors of acceptance
11 January 2008, Preliminary programme with tours, housing and registration to be mailed
30 March 2008, Deadline for any corrections to presentation titles or author names
18 April 2008, Presenter/Author registration. All presenters are required to register for the meeting. Paper numbers will be issued upon receipt of registration.
18 April 2008, Full paper presentations due to headquarters for publication on the electronic database.
29 June–2 July 2008, 2008 ASABE Annual International Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island
For conference and exhibit information, contact
Mr. Sharon McKnight ASABE Meetings and Conferences
2950 Niles Road St. Joseph, Michigan 49085
Tel.: (269) 428-6333
Fax: (269) 429-3852
Email: mcknight@asabe.org

Food Processing Automation Conference
28–29 June 2008
Providence, Rhode Island, USA
http://www.asabe.org/meetings/food2008/index.htm

Deadlines
Submission of paper proposals 4 January 2008
Notification of acceptance 1 February 2008
Final camera ready manuscript received 18 April 2008
All presenters must be registered 18 April 2008
Conference 28-29 June 2008

Conference Organizing Committee
Co-Chair: Kuanglin Chao, USDA Agricultural Research Service
Co-Chair: Moon S. Kim, USDA Agricultural Research Service

Bioengineering Pacific –
50th Anniversary of CSBE/SCGAB
2008 Annual General Meeting
13–16 July 2008, North Vancouver, Canada

The 50th Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Bioengineering will take place in North Vancouver British Columbia, on 13-16 July 2008, at the Lonsdale Quay Hotel. Hotel on the north side of the picturesque and busy Port of Vancouver.

Call for Papers
Please submit your Propositions for papers by February 15 via email to csbe2008agm@telus.net

Early Bird Draw
There will be an Early Bird draw for registrants who have paid prior to 1 June 2008, or who have submitted their MS Power Point paper presentation prior to 15 June 2008

Workshop: Modeling Material and Energy Flows Through Agro-Ecosystems

Highlights:
Sunday Workshop, Poster Sessions, Concurrent Sessions, Harbour Cruise

Location:
Lonsdale Quay Hotel, 123 Carrie Cates Court
Website: www.lonsdalequayhotel.com
A quiet boutique hotel centrally located on the North Vancouver side of Burrard inlet, 15 minutes by Sea Bus from downtown Vancouver

3. NEWS FROM SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

Report on the 3rd International Symposium of CIGR Section VI on Food and Agricultural Products: Processing and Innovations
Naples, Italy, 24–26 September 2007

Following the success of the 1st International Symposium of CIGR Section VI on Bioproducts Processing and Food Safety in Beijing in October 2004, and the 2nd one on the Future of Food Engineering in Warsaw in April last year, the 3rd International Symposium of CIGR Section VI was held from 24–26 September 2007 in Naples, Italy.
The symposium was jointly organised by Università di Napoli “Federico II”, CRA - ISMA (Italian Agricultural Mechanization Research Institute, Agricultural Research Council), AIIA Section VI (Section VI of the Italian Association of Agricultural Engineering) and CIGR Section VI; it was sponsored by MiPAF – Italian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, IAEF - International Association of Engineering and Food, EFFoST - European Federation of Food Science and Technology and SISTAL - Società Italiana di Scienze e Tecnologie degli Alimenti (Italian Society of Food Science and Technology). The main theme of this 3rd International Symposium of CIGR Section VI was Food and Agricultural Products: Processing and Innovations. Today, the food and agricultural processing industry strives to provide a wide variety of products with an enhanced shelf-life, functionality and quality attributes, and to develop new technologies in order to

Prof. Da-Wen Sun
meet the demands of people from different cultural and working backgrounds. Despite the success of the industry, public concerns about product safety, nutritional value and environmental impacts have recently become overwhelming. Such concerns accentuate the need for comprehensive scientific research and innovations to improve both the effectiveness and efficiency of food and agricultural processes. This is evidenced by the significant number of papers submitted to the Conference. In total, the Conference attracted 496 abstract submissions from 46 countries. After peer-review, 322 full papers were accepted and arranged into 4 keynote lectures and 108 oral presentations in 2 plenary and 24 parallel sessions, with 211 posters displayed in 2 poster sessions. A total of 275 participants from 33 countries attended the symposium. The distribution of these countries is as follows:

The symposium was opened at 9:15 by Professor Da-Wen Sun, Honorary Chair of CIGR Section VI and Chairman of the Conference, on Monday 24 September 2007 in the warm atmosphere. After the opening ceremony, two keynote speeches were delivered (9:40–10:40): Professor Paolo Masi, ‘The Engineering Approach to Novel Food Design’ and Professor Da-Wen Sun, ‘Computational Fluid Dynamics for the Food Industry’. Papers were then orally presented in three parallel sessions, from 11:00–18:40 in the remainder of the day. At the beginning of the 2nd day of the conference, similar to the 1st day, two keynote speeches were given: Professor Ian Ferguson, ‘Postharvest Research: Developing New Targets for Food and Agricultural Engineering’ and Prof. Mauro Moresi, ‘Present and Potential Applications of Electrodialysis in the Food Industry’. Three parallel oral sessions then followed. The conference concluded at noon on Wednesday 26 September after three more parallel oral sessions that were conducted between 9:00 and 12:40. During the conference, every oral session was well attended by the participants. The posters were displayed in two batches, i.e. from Sunday (23rd) afternoon to Monday (24th) evening and from Tuesday (25th) morning to Wednesday (26th) at noon, according to the conference programme. Two specific Poster Presentation Sessions and discussions were scheduled on Monday (14:00–15:00 and 16:00–17:40) and Tuesday (14:00–15:00 and 16:00–17:40).

The full versions of the papers presented at the conference were published in the conference proceedings in CD-ROM format and the abstracts were also made available in the printed Book of Abstracts; both were distributed to the participants.

**Professor Da-Wen Sun**
National University of Ireland, Dublin
Honorary Chair of CIGR Section VI
Chairman of the Conference
Editor-in-Chief, Food and Bioprocess Technology – an International Journal

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4. CIGR SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

**The 8th International Livestock Symposium (ILES VIII)**

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
1–5 September 2008

The 8th International Livestock Environment Symposium (VIII) will provide an international platform for the exchange of the latest research discoveries, technology advancement and networking among animal scientists, engineers, veterinarians and other professionals interested in the livestock environment. The technical programme addresses
the current and emerging issues facing the farm animal production industry, placing particular emphasis on the assessment and improvement of the animal environment and production systems and/or technologies that aim to enhance the health/well-being of animals and production efficiency while minimizing the environmental impact of production operations.

Topic Areas
Air Quality Impact on Livestock and Workers and Aerial Pollutants Mitigation
- Air pollution mitigation techniques to improve indoor air quality and animal health and reduce emissions of aerial pollutants, e.g. ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, VOC, greenhouse gases, PM2.5, and PM10
- Baseline emission factors of aerial pollutants
- Relationship between indoor air quality and animal health and growth
- Relationship between indoor air quality and caretaker health

Behavioural, Physiological and Production Responses of Farm Animals to Environmental and Management Factors
- Beak trimming of poultry, tail docking of pigs, etc.
- Lighting – photoperiod, spectrum, intensity, colour, etc.
- Loose housing vs. confinement
- Noxious gases and dust
- Sound/noise
- Stocking density, group size, feeder space allocation
- Thermal environment/acclimatisation
- Transportation during production to/at the abattoir

Livestock Housing Systems to Enhance Animal Welfare, Improve Indoor Air Quality and Sustain Production Economics
- Systems and techniques to minimize the impacts of global warming on animal well-being and production
- Systems and techniques to improve energy efficiency, water use conservation, affordability and versatility, product safety and/or quality
- Environmental enrichment

Precision Livestock Production
- Environmental control and energy metabolism of modern animals
- Management practices or tools such as automatic weighing, weight sorting, robotic house cleaning and detection of lameness
- Modeling of animal environment interactions, forecasting, economic models and life cycle analysis
- Sensors and sensing systems to monitor and manage the environment, herd welfare (including behaviour) and product quality (e.g. carcass composition, milk quality)

Program Deadlines
1. Online submission of paper proposals . . . . 31 October 2007
2. Notification of acceptance/rejection of proposals received; instructions emailed for paper preparation for proceedings . . . . . . . . . . 7 December 2007
3. Initial manuscript due to Proceedings Chair(s) . . . . 1 February 2008
4. Preliminary Programme finalised and distributed . . . . 15 February 2008
5. Critiqued manuscripts returned to author; instructions emailed for preparing proceedings ready paper . . . 15 April 2008
6. Final proceedings manuscript submitted to Proceedings Chair(s) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 15 May 2008
7. Personalized confirmation emailed with session title, date and time of presentation . . . . . . . . . . 2 June 2008
8. Final programme online . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2 June 2008
9. Author and presenter registration deadline . . 15 June 2008
10. ILES VIII Symposium opens . . . . . . . . . . . 1–5 September 2008

For further information, contact
Dr Richard S. Gates, Symposium Co-Chair
Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering
128 CE Barnhart Building
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40546-0276, USA
Tel.: 859-257-3000 ext. 128
Fax: 859-257-4571
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Dr Hongwei Xin, Program Co-Chair
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5. CIGR CO-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES


Water resources management should preserve or enhance the environment’s buffering capacity to withstand unexpected stress or negative long term trends. As the environment’s carrying capacity is put under increasing pressure due to the growing needs of the population and improper use of natural resources, environmental vulnerability increases as well. In this context, the mismanagement of water resources, paying only lip service to the environment, has led to water scarcity and water pollution, which threatens food security and the quality of human life.

All these factors compel scientists, technicians and decision makers to review the strengths and weaknesses of the current trends in water resource management and irrigation and drainage development and rethink the technology, research thrust and institutional and financial patterns, so that service levels and system efficiency can be improved and the sustainable use of water resources can be pursued.

Based on these themes, the 22nd European Regional Conference of ICID was held in Pavia, Italy, from 2–6 September 2006. The Event was organised by the Italian national committee of ICID (ITAL-ICID) with the
co-sponsorship and scientific support of different national and international Institutions, most notably among them, the Italian Districts of Lombardia and Lazio, CIGR, EurAgEng, IPRID and WWC.

Over 150 delegates from 19 countries attended the Conference. It provided an opportunity to review not only the present European practices in integrated water resource management and irrigation and drainage systems development, but also looked beyond current trends and explored what Europe could contribute to the rest of the world as a leading regional player that has been well known for being ‘outward facing’.

The importance of the Conference was underlined by the presence of several ICID Office Bearers, including Presidents Peter Lee and Hon. Bart Schultz; Vice Presidents Lübbe and Guluyk, Hon. Segura Graino, Alain Vidal and Ligetvári; Secretary General Gopalakrishnan and Secretary Sharma; besides the members of the host Italian national committee, including ITAL-ICID President Lucio Ubertini; General Secretary Maria Elisa Scarascia; and the Conference Co-chairman Daniele De Wrachien, former EurAgEng President.


Two Workshops on the ‘History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control’ and ‘European Framework Directive in the Field of Water’ were also successfully organised during the Conference. The aim of the 1st Workshop was to analyse the history in such a way that lessons could be learned for present day approaches and practices in the fields of land reclamation, flood control, irrigation and drainage in Europe. The 2nd Workshop focused its attention on the suitable measures for preventing water deterioration, protecting and restoring all bodies of groundwater and ensuring a lasting balance between the withdrawal and recharge of subsurface water resources. The outcome of the Conference was the decision to introduce a ‘Pavia Initiative’. The international event concluded with 2 field trips to the irrigation and drainage systems, land reclamation works and flood protection projects in the provinces of Novara and Mantua.

**10th International Congress on Mechanization and Energy in Agriculture,**


**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS!**

Deadline: 25th January 2008

Dear Colleagues,

The Department of Agricultural Machinery, Faculty of Agriculture, Akdeniz University is organizing the 10th International Congress on Mechanization and Energy in Agriculture, 14-17 October 2008, in Antalya, Turkey. The aim of the Congress is to bring the researchers and experts working in many different areas of Agricultural Engineering and to discuss on going researches and also new technologies.

Keynote speakers of the congress are Professor Irenilza A. Naas, Professor Da-Wen Sun, Professor Rainer Horn and Professor K.C. Ting whose keynote speeches will be on the actual subjects.

Please submit your 300-word abstract to Assoc.Prof.Dr. Can Ertekin, Congress Secretary, by January 25, 2008, by e-mail, ageg2008@akdeniz.edu.tr

All abstracts will be notified about acceptance of their papers by 7th March 2008. Kindly be informed that the deadline for the full paper submission is 16th May 2008.

Prof.Dr. Osman YALDIZ
Chairman

**Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (2006–2008)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), New Delhi, India.

I have the pleasure to attach the circular announcing the Prince Sultan Abdulaziz International Prize for Water 2006&8211;2008. The closing date for entries is 31 December 2007. You are encouraged to visit the website for more details (http://www.psipw.org).

Dr Vijay Labhsetwar
Director-II
Central Office of ICID

Regarding the abovementioned Prize, which has been initiated with the patronage of HRH Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz of the Saudi Arabian royal family, I am delighted to be able to invite you or your organisation to select a nominee for one of the 5 prizes offered in the current selection round, which will be awarded in 2008.

The 2008 Prize will be the 3rd in the series initiated as a humanitarian contribution by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the world, and as an initiative to address the growing water resources problem worldwide, which is being exacerbated by global warming.

The Prize is intended to reward the efforts of innovative academics and scientists as well as related organizations in the realm of water resources. It has been established to acknowledge the special achievements that have contributed to the development of scientific solutions to the problems associated with the provision as well as the preservation of adequate and sustainable water resources, particularly in arid regions.

Less than four months are remaining for those planning to submit nominations for the Prize. The closing date for entries for any of the 5 offered Prizes is 31 December 2007.

A special new Creativity Prize, worth more than 1/4 million dollars, has been added to the list of awards for this round. Worth 1 million Saudi Riyals (SR), or approximately US$266,000; the Creativity Prize will be awarded to any
original work (research, invention, technique, etc.) that is considered to be a breakthrough in any water-related field. The work must be practically applicable, economically feasible and environmentally friendly.

In addition to this new Prize, four additional Prizes will be available for the best nominations in 4 categories in separate subsectors of water resources:


The Prize for each of these subsectors will be SR 500,000 (approx. US$133,000). The winners will also receive a gold medallion, trophy and certificate that will be presented at a special awards ceremony.

'Due to the urgent need for water in arid regions across the world, like Saudi Arabia', explains Prize General Secretary, Dr Abdulmalek A. Al Alshaikh, 'there has been a sense of urgency to contrive supportive methods for water researches adopted on a world scale.

Please contact me for entry forms or more information, or go to the website: http://www.psipw.org.

Alternatively, you can contact the Prize Secretariat at Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water General Secretariat Prince Sultan Research Center for Environment, Water & Desert King Saud University, P.O. Box 2454, Riyadh 11451, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Tel.: +966-1-4675571, Fax: +966-1-4675574 Email: info@psipw.org

If there is anything further that I can do to assist, please let me know.

Yours truly,

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Debris Flow 2008

2nd International Conference on Debris Flow Monitoring, Modelling, Hazard Assessment, Mitigation Measures, Case Studies, Extreme Events, Erosion, Slope Instability and Sediment Transport

18–20 June 2008, The New Forest, UK
www.wessex.ac.uk/debris2008cfp.html

Organiser: Wessex Institute of Technology

Introduction

Debris and hyperconcentrated flows are among the most frequent and destructive of all water related processes. They mainly affect mountain areas in a wide range of morpho-climatic environments and in recent years, have increasingly attracted attention from the scientific and professional communities as well as concern from the public, due to the awareness of the increasing frequency with which they occur and the death toll they claim.

Higher population pressure on natural resources in hazard-prone areas and the development of activities that have the potential to increase the magnitude of hazard call for improvements in the criteria used to identify debris flow risk areas and to design suitable prevention and mitigation measures.

The Conference will provide a forum for engineers, scientists and managers from laboratories, industries, governments and academia to interchange knowledge and expertise in the fields of erosion and slope instability, sediment transport, debris flow and debris flood data acquisition, debris flow phenomenology and laboratory tests by using the most advanced, state-of-the-art methodologies in monitoring, modelling, mechanics, hazard prediction and risk assessment.

For more information, contact
Conference Chairman: Prof Daniele De Wrachien (daniele.dewrachien@unimi.it)
Conference Manager: Mrs Rachel Swinburn (rswinburn@wessex.ac.uk)
Conference Secretariat: Rachel Swinburn
Conference Manager Debris Flow 2008, Wessex Institute of Technology
Email: rswinburn@wessex.ac.uk

20th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage

Participatory Integrated Water Resources Management — From Concepts to Actions
Lahore, Pakistan, 13–19 October 2008
http://www.icid2008.org

Integrated water resources management is an issue of very high significance, as it involves the national and global assets of great socio-cultural, ecological and economic values. The prevailing system of uncoordinated water resources management cannot sustain the ever increasing water needs of the various expanding sectors; therefore, a strategy must be sought to integrate the various sectoral needs based on the available water resources in order to attain both economic and ecological sustainability. A participatory approach with the stakeholders must be established on several key issues. The capacity building of stakeholders on natural water resources management policies, water rights and the enforcement of laws would be an important contribution for participatory integrated water resources management in which specific roles and responsibilities must be ironed out.

Deadlines

Submission of comprehensive ‘summary and conclusions’ of approximately 500–600 words for the proposed paper (30 November 2007)
Result of review/screening of ‘summary and conclusions’ (31 December 2007)
Intimation of acceptance of ‘summary and conclusions’ for proposed paper (15 January 2008)
Receipt of full text of accepted papers in electronic format and two hard copies (1 March 2008)
Contact: Conference Secretariat, 506-WAPDA House, Lahore, Pakistan,
Tel.: +92 42 9202538, Fax: +92 42 9202154
Email: icid@icid2008.org,
6. OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Report of 50th KSAE
50th Anniversary of the Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers

Date : 18 (Thu) October - 20 (Sat), 2007
Place : Agro-Trade & Exhibition Center (aT Center) and Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea

The Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers (KSAE), founded in 1957, is a non-profit professional organization incorporated to serve the members working in various fields of agricultural engineering in Korea. The KSAE marks the 50th anniversary of its establishment this year. With this as a momentum, looking back over the past half a century and inaugurating a new, more creative era in the world, we opened the 50th anniversary of KSAE with many international academics at Agro-Trade & Exhibition Center (aT Center) and Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea in 18 (Thu) October - 20 (Sat), 2007. There were about 400 engineers at home and 50 agricultural engineering leaders from abroad while the presidents of six AE societies (Australia, China, CIGR, Japan, Taiwan and U.S.A.) joined our great events. During our 50th anniversary, we actively shared our latest information and knowledge with each other and set up a new vision and directions of progress to make the KSAE known around the world.

We established the cooperative agreement (MOU) with ASABE, CIGR and SEAg. The KSAE has already made the MOU with CSAE (China), CSAE (Taiwan) and JSIDRE (Japan). Through this international collaborations, KSAE established new cooperative relationship to devote the promotion of the art, science, and practice of agricultural and biological engineering with them to lead agricultural engineering in the world.

All invited leaders made valuable presentation for 21st standard for the future. Being basis on the presentations, we established the developmental goals and social values suitable for this rapidly developing age and presented a desirable future vision together with domestic and international participants that is “To the world, Fusion for the Future”.

We also had a special meeting with world invited presidents and then exchanged the opinions and discussions about agricultural engineering for the future. Moreover, there were various annual technical meetings such as rural development, soil and water engineering, structure and materials, and geotechnical engineering with world agricultural engineering researchers.

The agricultural engineering of Korea has made a remarkable progress and changed gradually in line with the trend of globalization. Against this backdrop, the KSAE will hope to contribute globalization by changing to meet such demand of the times and solidifying not only the unity of KSAE members but also the KSAE's relationship with international academic societies and their members.

Next time, we hope to listen to international visions and experiences of yours. Thank you very much to help us for this 50th anniversary.

Jeong-Jae Lee
President of the Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers (KSAE)
Dean of Students of Seoul National University

Challenges and Innovation for the Next Decades
Irrigation in Mediterranean Agriculture:
Impact of the EU Water Directive 2000/60 on
irrigation in Southern Europe, to assess the status of
the application of the water directive in the context of
mediterranean agriculture and to evaluate its
effectiveness on water resources management;

2) Research and innovation to promote better efficiency
in agricultural water use, to provide state-of-the-art
techniques for monitoring water use by crops and
evaluate the most suitable means for their transference;

3) Research and innovation for alternative water
resources for irrigation, to provide state-of-the-art
techniques in the field of the utilisation of low-quality

First Circular and Call for Papers
International Conference
Irrigation in Mediterranean Agriculture:
Challenges and Innovation for the Next Decades
17–18 June 2008, Napoli, Italy
Congress Center Partenope of the University of Naples
Federico II

During recent years, there has been much progress in understanding soil hydrological processes and their parameterisation in the management of water resources. The advances in research have produced innovative methodologies that are ready to be transferred to operative applications that are of great impact on the management of water and land resources. At the same time, technological developments of a new generation of measurement methods provide an opportunity for new observational and modelling perspectives.

This International Conference, organised by the University of Naples "Federico II", is designed for researchers and technicians operating in the field of agricultural water management to establish a link between operational applications and future trends for improving the sustainability of irrigation. Special attention will be devoted to the implications for the Water Directive 2000/60 of the EU. Three sessions are foreseen:

1) Impact of the EU Water Directive 2000/60 on
irrigation in Southern Europe, to assess the status of
the application of the water directive in the context of
mediterranean agriculture and to evaluate its
effectiveness on water resources management;

2) Research and innovation to promote better efficiency
in agricultural water use, to provide state-of-the-art
techniques for monitoring water use by crops and
evaluate the most suitable means for their transference;

3) Research and innovation for alternative water
resources for irrigation, to provide state-of-the-art
techniques in the field of the utilisation of low-quality
water resources and to evaluate the impact on both the environment and production requirements.

The Conference is organised in the framework of the activities of GRU.S.I. (Gruppo Studio Irrigazione/ Irrigation Study Group), with the sponsorship of the Italian Association of Agricultural Engineering (AIA-Section 1), European Association of Agricultural Engineering (EurAgEng), Italian Society of Agronomy (SIA) and Italian Committee of ICID (Ital-ICID).

The venue of the Conference is the Congress Centre Parthenope of the University of Naples Federico II, located in the city centre. The deadline for abstract submission is 10 January 2008.

For further information, contact the Organisation Committee: Prof. G. D’Urso (durso@unina.it); Prof. G. Severino (severino@unina.it)
Dept. Agricultural Engineer and Agronomy
University of Naples Federico II
Fax: +39 081 2539412

The World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology & Bioprocessing
27–30 April 2008, Chicago, USA
www.bio.org/worldcongress

The 5th Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology and Bioprocessing will take place in Chicago, IL, from 27–30 April 2008. This dynamic event will provide a forum for interdisciplinary interaction and networking. The conference programme features sessions on a diverse number of topics, such as:

- 2nd and 3rd generation biofuels production
- Industrial biotech for small molecule pharmaceuticals, fine chemicals, food ingredients and flavouring
- Agricultural feedstocks for bioenergy and chemical production
- Renewable chemical platforms and processes for new biobased products
- The impact of industrial biotechnology on climate change
- Nanotechnology – biotech interface

- Biotechnology for industrial sustainability
- Regional development models
- Biodefense applications
- And much, much more

Call for papers, panels and posters now open!
Closing date: 12 December 2007
(Please visit www.bio.org/worldcongress for more details)
For more information, please visit us at: www.bio.org/worldcongress
Or contact us:
Tel.: 202-962-6630, Email: worldcongress@bio.org

It is a great honor for me to announce the 9th International Conference on Precision Agriculture (ICPA) to be held at the Hyatt Regency Tech Center in Denver, Colorado from July 20–23, 2008.

The 9th International Conference on Precision Agriculture is envisaged to be the largest ever; with more than 500 attendees from all over the United States and 35 countries. The summer month of July is a gorgeous time of the year to be in beautiful Colorado. Surrounded by the Rocky Mountain National Park on the West to the Great Plains on the East, Denver is nestled in the heart of the USA.

The ICPA Conference will highlight significant research and applications in precision agriculture, and will showcase emerging technologies and information management. ICPA will offer oral and poster presentations and exhibits, as well as opportunities for discussion and exchange of information in various aspects of precision agriculture. Dedicated sessions for practitioners entitled “Precision A to Z Tracks” will offer practical advice from international authorities on key topics of precision agriculture for producers and professionals.

Raj Khosla
Chair of the 9th International Conference on Precision Agriculture
Colorado State University

7. PUBLICATIONS

CIGR Ejournal
(Reviewed Articles)

The Ejournal continues to develop very well. The papers published since the last Newsletter are listed below. This brings the total number of published papers to 338 original research articles and 109 invited overviews of authors from 52 countries. These papers are all available on the website at cigr-ejournal.tamu.edu and are free of charge for both authors and readers.

Peer Reviewed Original Research Articles Published since August 2007:
PUBLICATIONS


Invited Overview Articles


Agricultural Engineering International—The CIGR Ejournal

Dr Lingjuan Wang, Editor-in-Chief
http://cigr-ejournal.tamu.edu
ISSN 1682-1130
Send manuscripts for peer review to stout@tamu.edu

The CIGR electronic journal is now in its 9th year of publication. It has grown from a modest beginning and is now attracting many quality manuscripts. All of the published papers are available free of charge on the website: cigr-ejournal.tamu.edu. Below is a summary of the number of papers published to date.

Peer reviewed original research papers (346 in total):
As you might expect, the published papers come from a broad international base of 52 countries.

Peer reviewed original research papers:

Australia-2, Bangladesh-1, Belgium-4, Botswana-2, Brazil-8, Canada-13, Cameroon-3, China-8, Czech Republic-3, Denmark-13, Egypt-2, Estonia-5, Ethiopia-2, Finland-2, France-1, Germany-23, Greece-10, India-20, Indonesia-3, Ireland-2, Iran-4, Israel-2, Italy-11, Japan-34, Lebanon-2, Lithuania-3, Mexico-4, Netherlands-3, Nigeria-46, Pakistan-1, Poland-6, Portugal-6, Serbia-1, Spain-7, Sweden-4, Tanzania-2, Thailand-10, Turkey-3, United Arab Emirates-1, USA-27

Peer reviewed invited overview papers:

Australia-1, Bangladesh-2, Brazil-3, Canada-3, China-4, Denmark-2, Egypt-1, FAO-3, France-1, Germany-12, Greece-1, India-7, Indonesia-1, Israel-1, Italy-16, Japan-4, Kenya-1, Mexico-1, Morocco-1, Netherlands-3, Nigeria-13, Oman-3, Palestine-1, Poland-1, Portugal-1, Russia-1, Swaziland-2, Taiwan-1, Thailand-3, UK-3, USA-18, Yugoslavia-2, Zimbabwe-1

I invite all of you to submit manuscripts for peer review and publication. There is no cost to publish or access and print papers. The website contains all the details regarding manuscript format, submission instructions, etc. If you have any questions, please send me an email at stout@tamu.edu

Dr B.A. Stout, Coordinator, 31 October 2007
Dear colleagues,

The Laboratory of Mechanization and Automation of Technological Processes (LMATP) of IAS-UAAS is searching for an FP7-ENV-2008 (we have been informed that the approximate opening for this call will be December 2007–January 2008) Consortium already created or in the formation stage to participate in this Consortium as an institute co-executor (project partner) within Topic 6, ‘Environment, Climate Change Including’ for preparation project proposals on the following FP7-ENV-2008 project themes (source: Indicative Topics for ENV-2008 Work Program):

Area 6.3.1.3. Waste
ENV.2008.3.1.3.1. Waste prevention through the whole life-cycle chain: from eco-design to industrial ecology

Labotatory of Mechanization and Automation of Technological Processes (LMATP) of IAS-UAAS is also ready to execute a part of profile Project scientific researches and to effectuate scientific expertise on subjects proposed by the Coordinator of the European FP7 Project Consortium.

More detailed information about IAS UAAS and LMATP can be located at the CIGR website.

We expect your constructive proposals on mutually advantageous cooperation as soon as possible.

Mr. Fedir Demydyuk,
Plenipotentiary Representative of the Institute of Animal Science (IAS) of the Ukrainian Academy of Agrarian Science (UAAS), Scientific Researcher, Responsible for Scientific International Relations & Cooperation in Sphere of FP7 (Kharkiv, Ukraine).

Contact details:
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Fax: +380 57 740 39 94
Email: df@datasvit.net

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CIGR Section Boards (Elected in September 2006)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Chair</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Land and Water Engineering</td>
<td>Jose M. Tarjuelo (Spain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Farm Buildings, Equipment, Structures and Environment</td>
<td>Daniel Berckmans (Belgium)</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Equipment Engineering for Plants</td>
<td>Arturo Lara-Lopez (Mexico)</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>Rural Electricity and Other Energy Sources</td>
<td>Mikio Umeda (Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Management, Ergonomics and Systems Engineering</td>
<td>Pietro Piccarolo (Italy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Post-harvest Technology and Process Engineering</td>
<td>Jozef Grochowicz (Poland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Fedro Zazueta (USA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All correspondence and information on forthcoming activities should be sent to

The CIGR General Secretariat
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University of Tsukuba

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Yanmar contributes to people’s lives and welfare by efficiently making use of limited natural resources, developing distinctive technologies and maintaining trust in the relationships we share with our customers.

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Building foundations.

The Earth... a small blue planet.
Blessed with water, soil and air - people’s faces are etched with smiles.
In this same spirit, Kubota wishes to serve people through
its business endeavours related to water, foods and the environment,
linked directly to enhancing people’s lives.
Kubota fulfils a fundamental role in building foundations that render
essential services to support comfortable, rewarding lives on earth.
This is the core wish Kubota aspires to fulfil.

KUBOTA Corporation