



PSN NEWS LETTER

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7th International Conference on “Climate Smart Agriculture: Innovations and Adaptations” 15-17 June, 2022

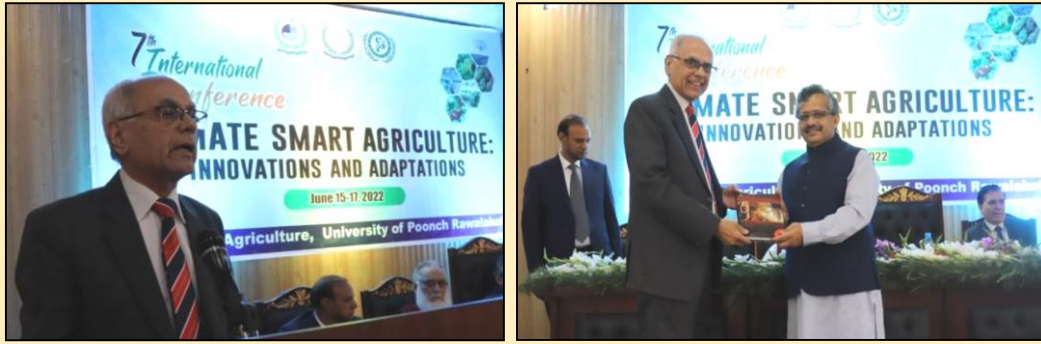
The 7th International conference on “Climate Smart Agriculture: Innovations and Adaptations” was organized by Faculty of Agriculture, University of Poonch, Rawalakot, Azad Jammu and Kashmir-Pakistan during 15-17 June, 2022.

The objective of the conference was to bring academic scientists and researchers together to exchange and share their experiences and research findings about climate smart agriculture, and discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions, innovations and adaptations. The participants comprising of scientists, researchers, academia and students from agriculture sciences and its related fields. Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro, President Economic Cooperation Organization-Science Foundation (ECOSF) participated in the conference as a Keynote Speaker. The program consisted of plenary and technical sessions, poster presentations and discussions with eminent speakers covering all thematic areas of the conference; provided all attendees with the opportunities to meet and interact with one another.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zakria Zaker, Vice Chancellor of University of Poonch Rawalakot welcomed all the distinguished speakers and guests. In his address, the Vice Chancellor said that due to global warming the situation is moving fast towards destruction and the devastation, which would have a terrible effect on agriculture and food. Prof. Zaker further said that this conference hopefully would be good commencement for making agriculture safe from those dangers in AJ&K as well as in Pakistan.

Eminent scientists including academicians, plant biotechnologists, botanists, and other professionals gave thought-provoking keynote and plenary talks over the three-day scientific gathering. These globally renowned specialists were Prof. Dr. Rattan Lal, Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science, The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA; Prof. Dr. Syed Dilnawaz Ahmed Gardezi, Vice Chancellor of Kotli University; Dr. Abid Mahmood, Chief Executive of Punjab Agriculture Research Board (PARB) Lahore; Prof. Dr. Shahid Mahmood Baig, Chairman of Pakistan Science Foundation and Prof. Dr. Abu Hassan Ahmad from Malaysia.

President ECOSF, Prof. Dr. Soomro in his plenary talk highlighted the significance of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), developed by FAO with the aim to develop technical, policy and investment conditions to achieve sustainable agricultural development for food security under climate change. Prof. Soomro presented his co-authored book entitled, “Textbook of Plant Nematology” to the Vice Chancellor of University of Poonch, Rawalakot at the end of his talk. Shields / certificates were distributed among the speakers and guests at the closing ceremony of the conference.



Prof. Soomro delivering his plenary talk and presenting his co-authored book entitled, “Textbook of Plant Nematology” to the Vice Chancellor, University of Poonch, Rawalakot.

Obituary

Prof. Dr. Syed Shahid Shaukat



Prof. Dr. S. Shahid Shaukat passed away peacefully to his eternal abode on 29 December, 2022 after a brief ailment. We pray to Allah Almighty that the departed soul may rest in eternal peace in heaven, Ameen! His sad and sudden demise is an irreparable loss for the entire scientific community of Pakistan and particularly for University of Karachi who has lost a great icon in the Bio-Statistical research.

Dr. Shaukat was an eminent scholar, internationally well known ecologists, outstanding bio-statistician and an environmentalist. He was an authority on Mathematical Ecology, Statistical Ecology, Bio-statistics and Bio-informatics. In recognition of his research contributions he was at number five in international ranking in Nematology and seventh in Mathematical Ecology by Google; it is a great pride for Pakistan at international level. One of his fields of interest was the bio-control and management of nematodes and published over 100 research papers in the field. Dr. Shaukat had a long service in teaching and research at University of Karachi. He had a fifty years rich experience of teaching Ecology, Biostatistics and Bioinformatics in various departments, including, Agriculture, Environmental Studies, Marine Biology and Microbiology and National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi. He also taught Mathematical Ecology in the Master of Industrial and Business Mathematics Program in the Department of Mathematics, University of Karachi.

Dr. Shaukat passed his M.Sc. in Botany with first position from the University of Karachi in 1968 and taught in the same department in various capacities. He began his long professional career as a lecturer, Assistant Professor, Professor and finally became an HEC eminent scholar Dr. Shaukat worked as teaching assistant and Tutorial Incharge at the University of Wales, U.K. He attended a Postgraduate Forestry course at the University of Wales, Bangor and was awarded a Master’s degree by research in 1973. He earned his Ph.D. in Mathematical Ecology from the University of Western Ontario, Canada in 1985.

Dr. Shaukat was life member of different professional societies and editorial board of many scientific journals. He was one of the most cited authors in Pakistan. His major research interests include Mathematical Ecology, Biostatistics,

Bioinformatics, Renewable Energy sources, Remote Sensing and GIS. He authored many books and review articles to his credit in related fields and published over 500 research papers in peer reviewed journals of international repute.

Prof. Shaukat, a superb teacher and an excellent researcher, will always be remembered for inspiring us with his engaging personality, teaching abilities and extraordinary scientific expertise. Apart from family members and relatives, he left behind large number of his students and colleagues which are now serving in different teaching and research organizations at home and abroad to mourn the loss. May Allah bestow his countless blessings upon him and strength to his family, students, colleagues and friends to bear this irreparable loss!

Prof. Dr. Syed Ehteshamul-Haque



(3rd January, 1961 - 28th August, 2022)

Prof. Dr. Syed Ehteshamul-Haque, a well-known eminent botanist, dedicated scientist and researcher passed away on 28th August, 2022 after a short illness at the age of 61 years. May Almighty Allah rest his soul in peace, Ameen!

Dr. Ehtesham's teaching and research career spread over 35 years. He obtained his M.Sc. in Botany in 1986 and earned Ph. D. in Plant Pathology (Botany) in 1995 from University of Karachi under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar. Post-doctoral research was carried out at University of Southern California, USA during 2004-2005. He was appointed as Research Officer in the Department of Botany, University of Karachi in 1987 till 1991; joined M.A.H. Qadri Biological Research Centre, University of Karachi during 1991-1998. He was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Botany, University of Karachi and became Associate Professor in 1998 and 2001, respectively; Professor in 2005, TTS Professor in 2011 and finally Tenured Professor in 2015. As a dedicated researcher he undertook many projects and received research grants from various funding agencies like Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, Pakistan Science Foundation and Higher Education Commission. He organized six conferences and seminars and gave many oral presentations in the International and National Conferences. Dr. Ehtesham published more than 155 scientific research papers in the reputed national and international journals. He supervised one M. Phil and eleven Ph. D students. His services will always be remembered as an inspiring scientist and a humble teacher. May he rest in peace- Ameen!

Visit to NNRC

Thirty students from Department of Genetics, University of Karachi visited NNRC on 28st October, 2022 with their head. During the visit Dr. Saboohi Raza, Director NNRC, teachers, research and technical staff members welcome them. The students were shown the videos about the importance of nematodes, their damages and management through EPN and other biopesticides to create awareness and provide knowledge. Dr. Erum delivered an informative lecture on plant parasitic nematodes. Dr. Tabassum Ara Khanum furnished information on entomopathogenic nematodes (EPN) and Dr. Salma Javed briefed them about the molecular work conducted on nematodes which helped participants to learn recent advances in the field of Plant Nematology. They visited the labs and were also briefed about the research accomplishments of NNRC.

Internship Program

Internship program was arranged for twenty two students of BS 3rd year of Department of Biotechnology, Ziauddin Hospital, Karachi. They completed their internship of one week (11th-18th October, 2022) on the basic morphology and identification of plant parasitic nematodes under the supervision of Dr. Saboohi Raza, Director, National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi. They were shown movies on different aspects of nematodes, their sign and symptoms and diseases caused by them to create awareness. Teaching staff, Dr. Tabassum Ara Khanum, Dr. Salma Javed and Dr. Erum Iqbal delivered the lectures and demonstrated the basic techniques for the identification of plant parasitic nematodes, insect parasitic nematodes and free-living soil nematodes. Molecular procedure for the identification of nematodes was also demonstrated to them.

All internees visited agricultural field of NNRC to collect the soil and root samples for the study of nematodes. They completed their internship successfully. All the students were very happy and showed keen interest to learn about the study of nematodes, the latest techniques and technology for identification and achieved good marks. Prof. Dr. Saboohi Raza, Director, NNRC distributed the certificates to all students for the successful completion of the internship.

HEC Recognized Journals

Two scientific journals viz., *Pakistan Journal of Nematology* (PJN) and *Plant Protection* have been given the status of recognized journals under “Y” category by Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan.

Future events

- **1-2 March, 2003**

7th International Conference on Parasitology and Infectious diseases, Berlin, Germany.

Theme: Global Impact on the Innovative research in Parasitology; Treatment & Elimination of Infectious Diseases.

Contact

Email: contact@euroscicon.com, Tele #: +441520330005

Website: <http://parasitology.euroscicon.com>

- **13-15 March, 2023**

The 3rd Global Soil Biodiversity Conference, 13-15 march, 2023, Dublin, Ireland.

Prof. Tom Bolger, University College Dublin

Chairman of Conference Organizing Committee

Contact

For further information please see the website: www.globalsoilbiodiversity.org

For registration please contact: GSB2023@conferencepartners.ie

- **26-27 April, 2023**

The 15th International Conference on Agriculture and Plant Science on 26-27 April, 2023, Barcelona, Spain.

Contact

Email: contact@asiapacificmeets.com

Website: <https://agriculture.conferenceseries.com/registration.php>

- **12-13 July, 2023**

International Conference on Phytopathology and Plant Protection ICPPP on July 12-13, 2023, Ottawa, Canada.

Contact

Website URL: <https://waset.org/phytopathology-and-plant-protection-conference-in-july-2023-in-ottawa>.

Program URL: <https://waset.org/conferences-in-july-2023-in-ottawa/program>

Contact URL: <https://waset.org>

Location: Ottawa, Canada

Date: July 12-13, 2023

Final Submission: June 11, 2023

- **16-17 August, 2023**

International Conference on Phytopathology and Plant Pathogens (ICPPP) on 16-17 August, 2023, Tokyo, Japan.

Contact:

Website URL: <https://waset.org/phytopathology-and-plant-pathogens-conference-in-august-2023-in-tokyo>

Program URL: <https://waset.org/conferences-in-august-2023-in-tokyo/program>

Contact URL: <https://waset.org>

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Date: August 16-17, 2023

Final Submission: July 16, 2023

- **20-25 August, 2023**

12th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) - 2023 Lyon, France.

“One Health for all Crops and Trees”

Contact:

Email: segreteria@sipav.org

Tel #: +39.081.2532253

Website: <https://www.icpp2023.org/>

- **1-5 July, 2024**

XX International Plant Protection Congress (IPPC), 1-5 July, 2024, Athens, Greece.

“Healthy Plants Support Human Welfare”

Contact:

Secretary General, IAPPS: E.A. Short Heinrichs

Email: eheinrichs2@uni.edu

Phone #: 402-472-6011

Website: ippcathens

- **19-20 July, 2024**

ICPPNM 2024: 18. International Conference on Plant-Parasitic Nematode Management, Paris, France

Conference Code: 24FR07ICPPNM002

Abstract/Full-Text Paper Submission: July 31, 2023

Notification of Acceptance/Rejection: August 30, 2023

Final Paper and Early Bird Registration: June 19, 2024

Conference Date: July 19-20, 2024

Contact

Website: <https://waset.org/plant-parasitic-nematode-management-conference>