

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

MSPPC 2003

14th Malaysian Society of Plant
Physiology Conference

CHALLENGES IN PLANT PRODUCTIVITY & FOOD SECURITY IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

23-25 September 2003
Awana Resort Genting Highlands

Organized by



MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF
PLANT PHYSIOLOGY (MSPP)
(<http://www.mspp.org.my>)

Co-organizers

MARDI, MOA, MOSTE

BACKGROUND

The world population has breached 6 billion and is expected to expand to 10 billion by 2050. Time and again prophets of doom have predicted catastrophic famines based on the perceived inability of man to cope with the ever increasing demand for food. Malthus in the 18th century was proven wrong, thanks to the doubling in crop productivity brought about by the Green Revolution. The apparent success of man to avert these prophecies may lull us into complacency in facing the future food needs. Yet there are telling signals that we have to address. The continuing population increase will result in a decline in available cultivable land from 0.3 ha in 1988 to 0.17 ha in 2050 with only 0.11 ha per capita in developing countries. On the other hand food demand will increase by 150 percent in 2025. Crop yields have to increase amidst a diminishing land and water resource base.

Besides the spectre of reduced land resource, man has also to contend with a changing biosphere. Alterations in our atmospheric composition have changed our climatic patterns. We need to assess the impacts on plant productivity caused by increased greenhouse gases, temperature, CO₂ and altered precipitation patterns.

The success of man to meet these challenges rests on his ability to develop more input-efficient and adaptable plants. He needs to adopt agricultural and silvicultural practices that are environment-friendly and able to sustain natural resources. Undoubtedly, knowledge in genetic and plant ecophysiological responses to adverse environment will play a significant role in this quest, especially in efforts to develop crop plants with improved environmental resiliency.

OBJECTIVES

- To review the status of R&D in the field of Plant Physiology relating to plant productivity and production systems.

- To deliberate the current research findings and relate their relevance to improving plant efficiency in resource use.
- To provide direction for an organized research in the field of plant physiology, and promote inter-disciplinary and inter-agency networking in this respect towards sustainable production systems and plant improvement

TARGETED PARTICIPANTS

- Researchers (students) with interest on studies relating to eco physiology, plant resource management, agronomy, silviculture and pest science (insects, disease & weed)
- Plantation and forest managers; natural resources stakeholders
- Sociologists and economists with interest on studies relating to sociology and socio-economics of the smallholders.
- Managers, extension officers/workers, national advisory agencies.
- IRPA managers in Agro-Industry, Environment and Science & Engineering Sectors and policy makers

TENTATIVE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The programme also includes keynote addresses by invited speakers, oral and poster presentations. **Best poster presentation will be judged and awarded.** Tentative areas of interest which will be covered during the conference include:

- **Ecophysiological processes** (respiration, transpiration, photorespiration, photoinhibition, water relations, postharvest, biotechnology)
- **Assimilate production** (photosynthesis, photorespiration, photoinhibition)
- **Critical stages of plant growth and development**
- **Weather and crop production** (crop improvement, breeding, resource management, pests and diseases, ecosystem, biodiversity)
- **Modeling and simulation**

CALLING FOR PAPERS

Papers of relevant topics within the theme of the Conference are invited for oral and poster presentations. Intending authors must send their completed registration forms with titles of the papers and a 500-word Abstract before **31 July 2003**. Authors are requested to submit an extended abstract not exceeding 5 pages of hard copy and diskette before **15 August 2003**. Abstract should include title, author(s), introduction, materials and methods, summary of findings, conclusion and references. Manuscripts should be prepared on **B5 size paper (182 mm x 257 mm)** typed single-spacing using standard 11 points Times New Roman in Microsoft Word 97 (preferred) with 2.5 cm margin at top, bottom and both sides. All hard copy must be camera ready. The committee reserves the right for final decision for oral or poster presentation. Suitable papers will be published in the **Journal of Tropical Plant Physiology**, the official journal of the MSPP

REGISTRATION FEE

Members	RM350.00
Non-members	RM450.00
Students	RM250.00

ACCOMMODATION:

Awana Genting Highlands Golf and Country Resort offers special rates per night inclusive of breakfast for one:]

Tower room	RM148.00 nett
Superior one-room condo	RM180.00 nett

To confirm your booking, please indicate your credit card number to Ms Stella Sum, Awana Hotel and Resorts (phone 03-20306630, fax. 03-21621551, e-mail kpsum@genting.com.my)

POST CONFERENCE TOUR

Possible tour to nearby farms i.e. to the controlled environment production system in glasshouse and ginger production area on hilly area is being finalized.

MSPPC 2003 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chairman

Dr Hawa Jaafar (President MSPP, MARDI)
(hawazi@mardi.my)

Secretariat

Assoc. Prof. Dr Mohd Ridzwan Abd Halim (UPM)
Dr Uma Rani Sinniah (UPM)
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Logistic & Tour

Dr Mohd Haniff Haron (mhaniff@mpob.gov.my)

Visit MSPP Homepage

<http://www.mspp.org.my> for online registration

Please return the form before **31 July 2003** to: -
Assoc. Prof. Dr Mohd Ridzwan Abd. Halim

Organizing Secretary
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REGISTRATION FORM

MSPPC 2003

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2003
Awana Resort Genting Highlands

Title: (Tan Sri / Dato' /Prof / Dr. / Mr / Mdm / Ms)

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please tick where appropriate and complete the space accordingly:

I am sending a crossed cheque No..... dated payable to *Persatuan Fisiologi Tumbuhan Malaysia* as payment for the registration

I am interested in participating

I am interested in presenting an oral paper

I am interested in presenting a poster Paper

I need accommodation

Title of paper/poster (please attach abstract)

