

The 1st Announcement
International Symposium on Biochar Research, Development and
Application

(October 10–15, 2011, Nanjing, China)

Background

It is urgent to find solutions to combat global warming and atmospheric greenhouse gases (mainly CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O) concentration increase. The discovery that the soil with biochar is more fertile than the adjacent soil without biochar by the archaeological work in the central Amazon basin, Brazil, stimulates the scientists' interests in utilizing biochar as soil amendment as well as global warming mitigation practice. Biochar is a product from pyrolysis of biomaterial under no oxygen or very low oxygen condition. Some researches have found that biochar decomposes very slowly, can stimulate plant growth, decrease greenhouse gases emission and reduce farmland nutrient losses. Based on these pioneering researches, the addition of biochar into the soil is considered as one of the most potential and cheaper straightforward ways to enhance the biogenic sequestration of atmospheric CO₂ and, hence, to mitigate climate changes. However, the widespread application of biochar is still facing compelling challenge to provide stronger evidence on the pyrolysis techniques, biochar standard, mitigation potential to atmospheric greenhouse gases and regional suitability.

Biochar is with high specific surface area, rich functional groups and macro-micro pore structures. Its application will play important roles on the supply and maintenance of nutrients and water, soil structure stability, bioavailability and degradation of heavy metals and organic pollutants.

An international symposium focusing on **Biochar Research, Development and Application** will be held in Nanjing, China, from October 10–15, 2011. The main objective of this symposium is to provide a platform for international and domestic experts to exchange findings, to discuss problems and to build cooperations.

Major Themes

- plant growth and nutrient cycling
- carbon turnover, sequestration potential and greenhouse gases mitigation
- organic pollutant degradation and non-point pollution mitigation
- biochar production and new products
- biochar standard
- integrated evaluation of economics, environment and social benefits

Scientific Committee: to be announced later.

Organizing Committee:

Chairman: Zhou Jianming, Professor, President of Nanjing Branch of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Deputy-chairman of Political Consultative Conference of Jiangsu Province.

Vice Chairman: Shen Renfang, Professor, General director of the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Vice-chairman: Xiao Yunhan, Professor, General director of the Research Center of Clean Energy and Power, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Vice Chairman: Zhang Jiqiang, vice-president of the Blue Moon Fund, USA.

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Deputy Secretary-general: Xu Renkou, Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Deputy Secretary-general: Peng Xinhua Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Members of organizing committee

Lin Qimei, professor, China Agricultural University

Wu Weixiang, Professor, Zhejiang University

Li Xinqing, Professor, Environmental Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry Chinese Academy of Sciences

Zhong Zheke, Professor, Bamboo Center of the Forest Bureau of China

Wang Senqiang, Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Sun Bo, Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Xu Renkou, Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Peng Xinhua Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Xie Zubin, Professor, the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Submission of Abstracts

The abstract (300 to 500 words) should be written in English in Microsoft Word format and be sent in electronic format via email at biochar2011@issas.ac.cn by no later than Aug. 15, 2011. Please include the following information in the manuscripts: Presentation title, Author's full name, Organisation, Mailing and E-mail address, and Telephone number.

Language

The official language of the symposium will be English.

Registration Fee

US\$ 300 for the scientists outside of mainland of China, including proceedings, meals during the conference.

900 RMB yuan for scientists, and 500 RMB yuan for student from the mainland of China.

Field trip (to be announced later)

Host organizations

State Key Laboratory of Soil and Sustainable Agriculture, Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Research Center of Clean Energy and Power, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Sponsors

International Cooperation Bureau, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

State Key Laboratory of Soil and Sustainable Agriculture, Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Research Center of Clean Energy and Power, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Blue Moon Fund

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Symposium Contact

● Mr. **Qi LIU**, (+86) 15951925607 (Cell)

Email: liuq@issas.ac.cn

● Miss **Yanping Xu**, (+86) 15996299849 (Cell)

Email: ypxu@issas.ac.cn

● Dr. **Zubin Xie**, (+86) (25)86881105 (O), (+86) 13914746008 (Cell)

Email: zbxie@issas.ac.cn

● Dr. **Renkou Xu**, (+86)(25)86881183(O), (86)13512507185(Cell)

Email: rkxu@issas.ac.cn

Fax: (+86) (25) 86881000

Mailing address: 71 East Beijing Road, Nanjing, 210008, China.

Return Receipt

(Please send back by E-mail before Aug. 31, 2010)

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Presentation title			