



MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE (MSSS)

NEWSLETTER

Dec 2016 Issue 3

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Course on Soil Identification and Classification

In order to improve understanding and knowledge of the officers and staff of the Division of Production Development, Malaysian Rubber Board, an introductory course on the identification and basic classification of soil was organized on 31st October to 4th November 2016 at the Malaysian Rubber Board (MRB) Research Station in Kota Tinggi, Johor. The course was attended by 18 participants consisting of officers and staff. In the initial stage, a preliminary test was conducted to determine the level of understanding of the participants about soil science. Participants who were from different background of education and working areas were found to have different level of understanding and knowledge. The program continued with lectures on basic geology, soil formation, soil properties and identification of soils for two days. Related videos and rock samples were used to facilitate participants in understanding the lectures. On the third day, the participants were brought to the field to physically examine, identify and classify the soil series to facilitate understanding of the theory and methods that were taught. The soil series used in this course were Jerangau, Sogomana, Bungor, Rasau, Kulai, Pohoi and Kemuning series. Each group had to present the identification and classification of the soil series on the fourth day. During the presentation, other participants were given the opportunity to comment and ask questions. On the last day of the course, lectures on the suitability of soils classification was given. Participants were required to sit for the final exam on the identification of the type of rocks and soils. All the lectures were conducted by MSSS fellow, Associate Professor Dr Wan Noordin Wan Daud and assisted by Mr Shafar



Jefri Mokhtar who elaborated on classifications based on Soil Taxonomy. Participants were able to increase their knowledge and understanding of soil formation, identification and classification of soils. Participants were made aware of the importance of soil series and suitability for rubber cultivation. This course would help to improve the quality of research; and is pertinent that soil types are taken into account in determining the experimental design of research plots. *Text and pic by Mohd. Shafar Jefri Mokhtar, UPM*

The MSSS Committee wishes all members

Seasons
Greetings



DOA-MSSS SOILS CORRELATION 2016

DOA-MSSS Soil Correlation 2016 along Selaru-Tampin-Gemas route was successfully held on 22nd and 23rd November 2016. Twenty five participants from various organizations e.g. MARDI, AAR, JC Chang, ESPEK, FRIM, UPM and UKM joined this event. The participants were shown different sedentary soils either formed from igneous or metamorphic rocks such as serpentinite, granite, both laterised and iron-poor shale, quartz, mica, schist as well as conglomerate during the 2-day event.

We have visited 7 different soil pedons during the 2-day event which cover 7 different soil series namely Sungai Mas series, Tai Tak series, sandy loam phase Beserah series, Rengam series, Padang Besar series, Keledang series and deep phase Batu Anam series. All participants were actively involve in the examination of soil profiles and fruitful discussion was held among the participants in the field where the limitations of each soil types, recommendations on the management, expected crop yield were discussed. *Text and images by Dr. Liew Yew Ann, AAR*



MSSS FELLOW

Name: **Dr Wan Mohamed Noordin Wan Daud**

Current position : **Lecturer (Associate Professor)**

Education History: **Master of Science (M.Sc.), Soil Science, Univ.of Ghent, Belgium, 1975 , Doctor of Science (D.Sc.), Pedology, Univ. of Ghent, Belgium, 1980**

Awards: **Anugerah Darjah Kesatria Mangku Negara (K.M.N), awarded by DYMM Agong 2001, Anugerah Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Sains Negara (MPKSN), 2001, Fellowship Awards, Malaysian Society of Soil Science (FMSSS), 2005**

Significant Publications: **To dated he has published 17 books and monograph, 12 book chapters and over 180 journal articles, refereed articles and conference proceedings**

Research Interest: **Soil genesis, soil taxonomy, soil suitability, soil survey and land use, and agronomy of plantation crops especially rubber.**

MSSS contributions: **Fellow (2005-present), President (1982-1988),Vice President (1980-1982),Honorary Treasurer (1975-1978)**

Outlook on soil science on the next 20 years: **Soil genesis and taxonomy should be given more prominence; latest equipment and techniques on mineralogy and micromorphology should be adopted in Malaysia. More research should be carried out on soil health and quality as soil is a non-renewable resource.**

Key to success as a soil scientist: **One must see soil as starting to life. Soil suitability vary with soil type. Know your soil taxonomy and suitability, you will be healthy and wealthy in technologies and try to use them in research.**



Public Talk - World Soil Day 2016

In conjunction with World Soil Day 2016 and International Decade of Soils (2015-2024), Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) and the Department of Land Management, Faculty of Agriculture, University Putra Malaysia (UPM) jointly organized a Public Talk by Associate Professor Dr Wan Noordin Wan Daud. This Public Talk was held at the Agriculture Hall, Faculty of Agriculture on Monday, 5th of December 2016 (9.30 - 11.30 a.m.) The event was attended by various agriculture and non-agriculture institutions with a total of over 100 participants. The public lecture was well received by attendees and is a crucial avenue to promote the importance of soil science research and development. It was also a formidable platform for networking among soil scientists, researchers, agricultural officers, lecturers and students. Assoc. Prof. Dr Wan Noordin, moved to UPM after his retirement at Malaysian Rubber Board (MRB) in 2005. He is involved in soil survey, taxonomy classification and soil suitability for over 40 years. Currently, he is a lecturer at Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University Putra Malaysia. He graduated with Bachelor of Science (Honours) Geology from University of Malaya in 1973. He pursued his Master of Science (MSc) in Soil Science at Ghent University, Belgium. He obtained his Doctorate (PhD) in Pedology with greatest distinction at Ghent University, Belgium in 1980. Dr Wan Noordin fascinated the audience with his talk entitled "Soil Taxonomy: Key to Sustainable Plantation Development". Starting with a little bit of history about pedology and soil classification, he made the presentation more interesting. He showed how the soils are classified to their taxonomic names and how it can be used easily in terms of knowing soil suitability for sustainable plantation development. From the presentation, he also showed the connection and importance of soil taxonomy in relation with soil survey and land use. His final slides left the audience with a advise : "Know Your Soil Taxonomy and Suitability, You Will Be Healthy and Wealthy". *Text and images by Shafar Jefri Mokhtatar*



Soil Appreciation Course 2016

Soil Appreciation Course 2016 with the theme on “Introduction to Tropical Peatlands” was jointly organized by Soil Management Branch of Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) and Param Agricultural Soil Surveys (M) Sdn. Bhd. (PASS). It was held from 24 to 26 October 2016, comprised of lectures and a one day field excursion at Ayer Hitam Peat Swamp Forest. The course attracted 33 participants from 12 different organizations including participants from Sabah and Sarawak. The objectives of the course was i) to highlight the fundamental characteristics of tropical peatlands, ii) to understand and implement suitable peat research methods in tropical peatlands, iii) to recognize and gauge the current issues related to tropical peatlands and iv) to promote responsible management of tropical peatlands. During the two days lecture, our MSSS Fellow, Dr. S.Paramanathan as the resource person highlighted topics on global peat statistics, peat characterization, peat classification, tropical peat forest and haze, climate change and peatlands and best management practices on degraded peat swamp forests. During the field excursion, three pedons which covered forest area, rubber and oil palm plantation were examined to enhance understanding on the characteristic of peat soils at different vegetation. The participants had the opportunity to see sampling done on peatlands and discussed on the soil analysis data. This course is the third series after the Soil Appreciation Course 2009 and 2013. FRIM would like to express their sincere appreciation to working committee for their timeless efforts in pit excavations, facilitation and providing handbook materials for the field tour. Special thanks to Director General of FRIM, NRE help desk PSM, MSSS, sponsors, Penghulu Mukim Ayer Hitam, rubber and oil palm plantation owners for making the course a success.

Soil Appreciation 2009 : Introduction to Approaches in Forestry

Soil Appreciation 2013 : Interpretation of Soil Survey and Soil Laboratory Data

Text and images Nur Hafiza Abdul Halim and Rozita Ahmad, FRIM



Soil Fun Run 2016

In conjunction with the International Decade of Soil 2015-2024, the Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) with Department of Agriculture (DOA) organized a Soil Fun Run 2016. The 3 km run was held at Institut Pertanian Serdang on 26th December 2016. The concept of this relay run is where each team consist of 3 runners. The objectives of this event were to encourage a healthy lifestyle, promote public awareness on the importance of soil and educate them on the importance of soil conservation. The route of the run started from Institut Pertanian Serdang's main gate, crossing across the farms, agriculture area and the nearby housing estate. The programme has brought together over **189 participants** consisting of students (universities, primary and secondary school) soil enthusiasts and public. The programme commenced at 7.30 am with the stretching and warm-up session. The runners were released by En. As'ari Hassan, the chairman of Soil Fun Run 2016 at 7.45 am. In the run, each runner (first, second and third) has few task to be completed which consist of collecting a soil mixture, fertilizer and sapling. After all the items have been collected, the last task that all groups need to complete was planting a tree from items collected. A total of 10 prizes consist of cash prizes were given to the first six winners while the other 4 winners were given prize hampers. In the prize presentation ceremony, Madam Faridah Aini Muhammad, DOA's Director of Plant Biosecurity presented the prizes to the winners for 7th to 10th placing whom were ISB 1, JPS Runner, Titan and ISB2. Whilst for the winners of 4th to 6th placing, Assoc. Prof Dr Radziah Othman whom represented MSSS presented the prizes to Pacemaker 2.0, Volrunner and Mardi Runner. Finally Mr. Halimi Mahmud, DOA's Deputy Director presented the prizes to the 1st to 3rd placing winners whom were Singam 3, Pacemaker Malaysia and Rostam Juniors respectively. There were also Lucky Draw session where the Grand Prize consist of electronical items such as microwave and TV were presented to the winners by our Hon. Secretary; Dr Rosazlin Abdullah and Director of Management and Conservation of Soil Resources Division DOA; Mr. Zabidi Dun. All runners who completed the run were also being awarded with finisher medals and certificates of run completion. A mini exhibition on soil science was setup by the Department of Agriculture Malaysia to educate the attendees on the soil diversity and its importance. In this opportunity, we would like to express our gratitude to the committee involved in this program especially MSSS members and DOA family and also sponsors who supported this event. *Text and images by Nur Sa'adah Abdul Halim, UM*



Post Conference Tour

A tour to local agricultural sites is scheduled for 6-7 April 2017 after the conference. Participants who are interested in the demonstration of local soil profile and agricultural activities are invited to join the 2DIN tour to Kabalong Agricultural Station and Borasso Tropical Rainforest in Miri, Sarawak.

Depending on the room types of our choice, a nominal fee that covers accommodation, logistics, materials, and meals will be charged to those who join the post-conference tour as in below:

Single Room	= RM430.00(USD100)
Twin-Sharing Rooms	= RM250.00(USD70)

The tour is limited to 40 participants only where the spots are available based on first-come first-served.

Please contact

Dr. Zakry Hiri Abd Aziz (zakryh@upm.edu.my) to reserve a spot. Payment shall be made at the registration counter on the first day of conference.

Tour Itinerary

Date	: 6 April 2017
Day	: Thursday
Time	Programme
7.00pm	Check out from hotel/messing time
7.30pm	Departs from hotel
10.30pm	Departs to Kabalong Agricultural Station
	Tour around Kabalong Permanent Station, Miri
12.30pm	Lunch/Rest time
1.00pm	Departs from Kabalong Agriculture Station, Miri
1.30pm	Borasso Tropical Rainforest, Miri
	Welcome drink
2.00pm	Check in
3.00pm	Meeting time for Resort Tour
	Resort Tour(Trailer & Boat Ride)
7.00pm	Dinner (BBQ Buffet and Karaoke)*

Date : 7 April 2017
Day : Friday

Time

7.30pm	Breakfast is provided by resort
11.30am	Lunch/rest time
	Check out
1.30pm	Depart from resort
4.30pm	Bintulu Airport

Note: Please ensure to bring suitable and comfortable clothing, towel, sport shoes, hat, sun block and insect repellent. Outside beverage items are not permitted.

Meeting place:
Parkcity Everyly Hotel Bintulu



Final Announcement

SOILS 2017

International Conference on Sustainable Soil Management

Quality Soil Drives Productivity

4 - 7 April 2017

Parkcity Everyly Hotel Bintulu, Sarawak MALAYSIA

Background

The Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) and Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu Sarawak Campus (UPMKB) will jointly organize the International Conference on Sustainable Soil Management (SOILS 2017) at Bintulu, Sarawak MALAYSIA.

Soil is one of nature's most valuable resources and no doubt it provides vital and inevitable services including food production, conducive climate, biodiversity, water, nutrients, and waste management into perpetuity.

Continued understanding of the nature and properties of soil, with the primary aim of managing it responsibly, will guarantee its ever indispensable usefulness and services to mankind. Soil as any natural resource, is prone to mismanagement. Thus, multidisciplinary research in soil science and related fields is essential and cannot be over emphasized.

With this approach, useful knowledge on almost all aspects of sustaining soil and related ecosystems for posterity could be ensured. Therefore, the SOILS 2017 with the theme 'Quality Soil Drives Productivity' will provide a platform for academicians, researchers, industries, institutions, agencies, and organizations to have discussions on advances in responsible soil use and management.



Keynote Speaker

Prof. Dr. Ahmet Memut
Harran University, Turkey
Advisor to the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock, Ankara, TURKEY
Pedologist
President of ECSSS and EUROSOIL 2016



Keynote Speaker

Dr. Jongshu Shin
Principle Scientist
National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Rural Development, SOUTH KOREA
Waste Management, Agronomy and Soil Science



Keynote Speaker

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siva Kumar Balaasubraman
Faculty of Agriculture
Universiti Putra Malaysia, MALAYSIA
Precision Agriculture



Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS)



Universiti Putra Malaysia
Bintulu Sarawak Campus (UPMKB)



Department of Agriculture Sarawak



Sarawak Conventional Bureau

Jointly organized by :

With the support of :

Objectives

- To share knowledge on responsible soil use for sustainable crop production without degrading the quality of the environment.
- To share recent information on soils and appropriate technologies *vis a vis* sustainable crop production.
- To provide future direction for organized activities on soils.
- To promote interdisciplinary and inter-organization networking or collaboration towards achieving sustainable soil management and crop production.

Call for Papers

In conjunction with the SOILS 2017 theme, papers of relevant topics within the conference theme are limited to oral/paper presentations. Authors are requested to submit an Extended Abstract not exceeding three (3) pages in English.

The Extended Abstract must include title, author(s), introductions, material and methods, results and discussion, conclusion, and references.

The Extended Abstract must be prepared on an A4-sized paper with 25 mm margins on all sides, with single spacing using Times New Roman (font size 12).

All illustrations must be inside the text of the Extended Abstract. Poster must be prepared on an A1-sized papers. All oral and poster presentations submitted are eligible for "Best Oral (Student only)" & "Best Poster" awards.

Topics/Scopes

- Soil Genesis and Classification
- Soil Physics and Conservation
- Soil Fertility and Nutrient Management
- Soil Health and Microbes
- Management of Plantation Soils
- Management of Peat and other Wetland Soils
- Biofertilizer and Biochar Utilization for Land Improvement

Registration Fees

- MSSS Member RM800.00 (USD250)
 - Non-MSSS Member RM900.00 (USD300)
 - Student* RM550.00 (USD180)
- * Please attach a verification letter from the supervisor together with the registration form.

The registration fee includes a conference bag, proceedings, lunch, refreshments, and a conference dinner.

Exhibition

We would like to invite universities, research institutions and fertilizer industries to showcase their latest products and technology related to soil management, laboratory instruments, research facilities and scientific equipment.

Please contact the secretariat Dr. Noorasmah Saupi (noorasmah@upm.edu.my) for incurred charges and space allocation.

Organizing Committee

- Advisors** : Dr. Wan Rasidah Wan Abdul Kadir
 Dr. Zamri Rosli
Chairman : Dr. Wan Arifina Wan Yahaya
Vice Chairman : Dr. Shahrul Razid Serbint
Secretary : Dr. Mohd Zafrri Hassan
Treasurer : Dr. Nelison Teruki
Secretariat : Dr. Noorasmah Saupi

Please send via mail, e-mail or fax a copy of this form and Extended Abstract to :

The Secretariat
International Conference on Sustainable Soil Management
 Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences
 Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu Sarawak Campus
 97008 Bintulu, Sarawak MALAYSIA.
 (Attn : Dr. Noorasmah Saupi)
 ☎ +60 16 624 0057 (Dr. Hadi Hamli)
 ☎ +60 86 855 375 (Dr. Mohd Zafrri Hassan)
 📠 +60 86 855 415
 📧 icssm2017@upm.edu.my
 🌐 www.msss.com.my/soils2017
 📄 SOILS2017

Payment Methods

Registration is not considered unless the payment has been received. Cancellation and refund will not be accepted after the registration. Payment should be made to the following bank account details:

International Conference on Sustainable Soil Management (SOILS 2017)	
Account Holder	Malaysian Society of Soil Science
Bank	Maybank Malaysia
Bank Account Number	014057301489
Bank Address	Lot 1.01, Ampang Park Shopping Complex, Jalan Ampang, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Branch Code	MBBEMYKL
Swift Code	14007

Local Participants

Payment should be in the form of a Crossed Cheque (Money Order/Postal Order/Bank Draft/Cash/Card Cheq, payable to the Malaysian Society of Soil Science. Payment via other means may be discussed with the organizer.

International Participants

Payment in USD should be made via Telegraphic Transfer (TT). Please take note on the following details for the payments:

- The payment should be made in Ringgit Malaysia and USD only. All payments made need to be accompanied by proof of payment (i.e. bank-in slip / copy of payment receipt) and email to the Secretariat at icssm2017@upm.edu.my
- For participants who make bank transfer payment, kindly send us the digital copy of your payment slip for our record by email us at icssm2017@upm.edu.my
- Payments via credit card are subjected to 6% GST surcharge (Goods and Service Tax)
- Payments via telegraphic transfers (TT) may be subjected to other fees depending on the bank. Please check with your bank.

Registration Fee Waivers

Registration fee waivers are available for twelve (12) early career researchers and twelve (12) students who submit their extended abstracts and registration forms before 15 February 2017.

Early career researchers must be aged not more than 35 years old at the deadline; and students must provide proof of student status.

The waivers will be awarded to participants with the above-mentioned criteria based on their extended abstract quality determined by the technical committee members at their discretion.

Successful participants fee waivers will be announced on the website and by e-mail. Registration fee will be disbursed to successful participants at the registration desk on the first day of conference.

Registration Form

Full Name : (Prof./Assoc. Prof./Dr./Mr./Mrs.) _____

Occupation : _____

Organization : _____

Mailing Address : _____

Contact Number (HP) _____

(O) _____

E-mail : _____

- I wish to attend the conference
- I wish to present a paper(s)
- I wish to present a poster(s)
- I wish to attend the conference dinner
- I wish to participate in the post conference tour

Title of paper/poster : _____

Signature : _____

Date : _____

IMPORTANT DATES

- ◆ Abstract submission: All interested persons are invited to submit your abstracts NOW.
- ◆ Deadline for abstract submission: 1 July, 2017
- ◆ Deadline for the payment of registration fees: 1 August, 2017
- ◆ SWAT Workshop & Conference, Kuala Lumpur: 23-26 October, 2017

REGISTRATION FEES

Category	RM	USD	Workshop
Normal Price	1200	300	100 (USD)
MSSS Member	1000	-	-
Local students*	800	-	100 (RM)
International students*	-	200	50 (USD)

* Please attach a verification letter from the supervisor together with the registration form for student rate.

The conference registration fee is inclusive of a conference bag, proceedings, lunch, refreshments, and a conference dinner.

An accepted paper where the presenter is unable to attend the conference has to pay full fees if they want their paper published in the proceeding and the journal.

Information about the REGISTRATION FEES

- ◆ The registration fee for conference participants includes the Program & Abstracts book, conference attendance, flash drive containing the abstracts, lunches and coffee breaks for 23-25 October, 2017 and excursion on 26 October, 2017. Additional fees for workshop will cover training materials and QSWAT software.
- ◆ You can register online at: will be announced later
- ◆ After the deadline (1 July, 2017) the registration fee will be US\$50 higher per person.
- ◆ The registration fees can be paid by registering online and by bank transfer. Details will be



Any enquiries or further information please contact :

Dr. Khairi Khalid
(khairikh2011@gmail.com) Phones: +60-133765917) or,

Dr. Siti Humaira Haron
(sthumaira10@gmail.com)
Phone: +60-179096489)

5TH SWAT (SOIL & WATER ASSESSMENT TOOLS) WORKSHOP & CONFERENCE in SOUTH EAST & EAST ASIA (SWAT SEEA IV)

"MODELLING APPROACHES FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING"

Date on : 23 – 26 Oct 2017

VENUE: Shah Alam-Putrajaya

HOST: THE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE (MSSS)



This conference is supported by World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC), USDA-ARS, Texas A&M, and many other local and int'l organizations.



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Papers related to the theme and those belonging to the following subjects are welcome:

- ◆ Large-scale Applications
- ◆ Climate Change Applications
- ◆ Sensitivity Calibration and Uncertainty
- ◆ Plant Growth
- ◆ Environmental Applications
- ◆ BMPs
- ◆ Hydrology
- ◆ Sediment,
- ◆ Nutrients and Carbon
- ◆ Pesticides, Bacteria, Metals, and Pharmaceuticals
- ◆ Database and GIS Application and Development
- ◆ Urban Processes and Management
- ◆ Landscape Processes and Landscape River Continuum
- ◆ In Stream Sediment and Pollutant Transport
- ◆ Other agendas, e.g. SWAT School and SWAT Network concepts

PROGRAMME

October 23, 2017: Arrival, Registration & Workshop

October 24-25: 5th SWAT Workshop and Conference for South East and East Asia (SWAT SEEA V).

26 October 2017: Tentative In Conference Tours -Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Botanical Garden, Shah Alam/ Aquaria KLCC Putrajaya/KL

MEETING VENUE / ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will be in Kuala Lumpur where the 2-day workshop and conference will take place. Information about accommodation will be announced later.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY MEMBER

- ◆ Philip Gassman, Iowa State University, USA, Co-chair
pwgassma@iastate.edu
- ◆ Samran Sombatpanit, WASWAC Advisor & Past President, Bangkok, Thailand, Co-chair
sombatpanit@gmail.com

The extended abstract should be prepared with title, authors, affiliations & email of contact author, and should be submitted online by 1 July, 2017. For more information please contact Dr. Khairi Khalid at khairkh2011@gmail.com. All accepted extended abstracts will be published in the Program and Abstracts book to be distributed during the conference.

The format for the full papers that will be ultimately included in the conference proceedings will be given in the Call for Papers subsection on the conference websites. Authors are requested to submit an extended abstract not exceeding four (4) pages in English. The extended abstract must include the title, author(s) introduction, material and methods, results and discussion, conclusion and references. Manuscript should be prepared on an A4-sized paper with 25 mm margins on all sides, and typed with single spacing using size 12 Times New Roman font. All illustrations must be prepared inside of the main text. Selected papers will be published in the special issue of the Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (MJSS). More information will be provided at the conference in due time.

MSSS Publications for Sale!

BOOKS (RM 10/each)

1. Bibliography of Malaysian Soils
2. Recent Developments in Land Evaluation
3. Sustainable Land Management
4. Secondary & Micronutrients in Malaysian Agriculture
5. Developments in Soil Research In Malaysia
6. Soil Management for Food and Fruit Crop Production

PROCEEDINGS (RM 10/each)

1. Soil Science Conference of Malaysia year ('91, '93', '94, '95, '97, '98, '99)
2. Soil Science Conference of Malaysia year ('02, '03', '04, '06)
3. International Conference on Fertilizer Usage in the Tropics 1992
4. Workshop on Soil Science in Malaysia-Towards the year 2020
5. Proceedings of the International Conference on Fertilizer Usage in the Tropics (FERTROP) 1992

JOURNALS (RM 10/each)

1. Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (Volume 1–12)
2. Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (Volume 15–16, 18)

Announcements!

- [2nd International Tea Bag Index](#), March 2017
- [SOILS 2017](#), Bintulu, 4-7 April 2017
- [Soil Erosion Modelling Workshop](#), Ispra, Italy, 20-22 Mar 2017
- [ISSPA 2017](#), Nanjing, 14-18 May 2017
- [IUFRO-125th Anniversary Congress 2017](#)

THE IUSS BULLETIN DECEMBER 2016

Find the latest IUSS information [here](#)



Abd. Rahman Jabir bin Mohd Din - 0997

SOIL CONNECTS ISSUE NO 5

The latest issue of IUSS Division 4 Newsletter Soil Connects is available. Starting with a report from Division Chair Christian Feller, it contains interesting articles, e.g. on the proposal of a new IUSS Working Group 'Cultural Patterns of Soil Understanding', the Austrian Soil Film Days focusing on the role of soil in the Alps, the nutrient cycling function as well as soil consumption, how to engender connectivity to soil through aesthetics followed by book reviews and conference reports.

Membership is open to all professionals and graduate students, within and outside Malaysia. Please visit our website <http://msss.com.my/apply.htm>

FEES : RM50.00 per year for ordinary membership, or RM400.00 for life membership

New publications!

- Celebrating Soils, Discovering Soils and Landscapes, Balks M.R. et al.
- Biochar, A Regional Supply Chain, Bruckman V.J. et al
- Soil Magnetism, Jordanova N
- Soil & Environmental Chemistry, Bleam, W.F.

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

We are a big group of almost 300+ soil enthusiasts and we like to hear from you! We are looking for article contributions on soil related issues, mainly

GENERAL ARTICLES: If you have a story/report about an activity related to soil, such as soil training/workshop/conference/meetings; please send it along. A one – two page article with color pictures are encouraged.

YOUNG SCIENTIST: If you are currently a young soil scientist (below 40 years of age) working on a research project related to soil dynamics, you may send in your research article about 500 to 600 words which states on the intro, justification, brief methods, results and conclusion. Please include a digital photo as well.

SENIOR SCIENTIST: If you are currently a senior soil scientist (above 40 years of age) working on a research project related to soil dynamics, you may send in your research article about 500 to 600 words which states on the intro, justification, brief methods, results and conclusion. Please include a digital photo as well.

THE EASTERN CONNECTION: Dedicated for any soil research endeavors and information from Sabah and Sarawak.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Of trainings or educational opportunities, forthcoming meetings, conferences or other international announcement regarding soil, agriculture, forestry, etc.

BOOK/PAPER REVIEW: If you have come across a recently published article you think may be of interest to other MSSS members, please alert the Newsletter Editor and we will highlight it for our readers. We give priority to publications by MSSS members but anything on soil research is welcomed.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Submit your advertisement for RM 40 for half page and RM 80 for full page in our newsletter. Gain more visibility with your services and products!

Submission information: For text send a word document with Arial font (11) to jeyanny@frim.gov.my or rosazlin@um.edu.my and for photos .jpg is preferred. All submission will be scrutinized by the Editorial Board for suitability before publishing. Once approval, the Editorial Board will inform you with further details.

MJSS - CALL FOR PAPERS

The Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (MJSS) is a scientific journal published by the Malaysian Society of Soil Science. It contains research papers in English on matters related to soil and soil-plant interactions. The journal welcomes original research works not previously or simultaneously published in any other scientific or technical journal from MSSS members as well as other scientists in Malaysia and abroad. The aim of the journal is to promote the development of soil science in Malaysia, other tropical and subtropical regions. **MJSS is a peer-reviewed, fully open access journal, is now indexed by Scopus and published annually.** Instruction for authors and other details are available on our website <http://www.msss.com.my/journals/>

**Contact us**

Malaysian Society of Soil Science
Locked bag 254,
43409 UPM Serdang,
Selangor Darul Ehsan
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The IUSS song

*It is our life! We call it soil
It is the stuff, in which we toil
From soil we've sprung, to soil we'll go
Protect the soil of this earth so we can grow*