



MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE (MSSS)

NEWSLETTER

August 2018 Issue 2

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Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah

Dr. Muhammad Firdaus Sulaiman

Advisor: Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan

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2018/2019

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FROM PRESIDENT'S DESK

This year, 2018, the Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) is celebrating its 47th year of existence. First of all, I would like to thank MSSS members for having trust in me to lead and represent the society. I would also like to congratulate the Past President and her management committee for their efforts to put the society in the forefront at the local and regional level, and I, and my management committee will continue in this



endeavour to make the society visible, especially to the public. Members will be kept abreast of the society's involvement at the local and regional level through the MSSS Newsletter and I urge members to contribute articles and share their work experience with others in the society.

The year 2015 – 2024 has been proclaimed by the President of International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) as the International Decade of Soils with the theme 'Soil matters for humans and ecosystems'. The IUSS has identified the key roles played by soils in addressing the major resource, environmental, health and social problems which humanity is currently facing. Thus, MSSS as part of the global soil scientist network, should increase the momentum and extent of our contributions on these issues. The society is also in dire need of voluntary writers representing the society to write articles in the social media regarding issues pertaining to soil. Members who are willing to write on behalf of the society can contact the Honorary Secretary for further arrangements.

I, together with all elected 2018/19 committee members, will try to work out interesting and impactful events, and welcome suggestions from all MSSS members.

Soil is Life.

Prof. Dr. Che Fauziah Ishak

President 2018/2019



BE THE SOLUTION TO SOIL POLLUTION

5 December 2018



The 10th International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interaction at Low pH 2018 (PSILPH)

The Malaysian Society of Soil Science and the Department of Land Management, Faculty of Agriculture Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), in association with the Department of Agriculture Malaysia (DOA) and the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), had jointly organized the 10th International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interaction at Low pH 2018 (PSILPH 2018) that was held from 25 to 28th July 2018 at the Palm Garden Hotel IOI Resort, Putrajaya.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radziah Othman, Chairman of the 10th PSILPH organizing Committee together with Prof. Dr. Leon Kochian, Chairman of the International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interaction at Low pH International Steering Committee presenting the symposium's Book of Proceedings to Prof. Datin Paduka Dato' Dr. Aini Ideris, the Vice Chancellor of UPM.

The theme of the symposium, 'Achieving Sustainable Agriculture Production on Acid Soils' had brought together more than 200 participants from the following countries: Australia,

Bangladesh, Canada, China, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Slovakia, and USA (Guam). The symposium encompassed 7 presentation themes which were: genetics and breeding of crops, soil-microbe-plant interactions, physical and chemical properties of low pH soil, soil fertility, chemistry, amelioration and remediation of low pH soils, physiological and molecular mechanisms of plant, sustainable management of plantation and other crops, and environmental monitoring of low pH soil.

The event was officiated by the Vice Chancellor of UPM, Prof. Datin Paduka Dato' Dr. Aini Ideris. Distinguished speakers that were invited to deliver their plenary speech were Prof. Dr. Leon V. Kochian (Global Institute for Food Security, University of Saskatchewan, Canada), Prof. Emeritus Dr. Lynette K. Abbott (University of Western Australia, Australia), Prof. Dr. Toru Fujiwara (University of Tokyo, Japan) and Prof. Dr. Mohamed Hanafi Musa (UPM). Apart from the 4 plenary presentations, 7 keynote and 33 oral and 67 poster presentations were presented during the conference. The symposium also included a tour to observe a soil profile at Ladang Kempas, Jasin, Melaka on the third day of the symposium. After the soil profile observation, participants were brought for a tour of the historical sites around Melaka.

The symposium was successfully held with lots of new insights and advancements in managing plant and soil on low pH soil that were shared by the presenters. The next symposium, the 11th International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interaction at Low pH will be held in Nanjing, China in 2021.

By: Dr. Muhammad Firdaus Sulaiman (UPM)



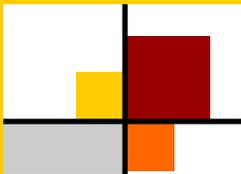
10th  *'Achieving Sustainable Food Production on Acid Soils'*
PSILPH 2018
10th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PLANT-SOIL INTERACTIONS AT LOW pH



Group photo of all participants of the symposium with the guest of honor, the Vice Chancellor of UPM



More than 200 participants from 11 countries had joined the symposium



Investigating Soil Change Under Free Air CO₂ Enrichment (FACE) Study

The increasing levels of green house gases (GHG) emission from anthropogenic sources has caused global warming and led to climate change. Adaptation methods are needed to reduce GHG emissions and forest can played an important role to mitigate climate change. Research under the FACE study was carried out in FRIM to investigate the effect of climate change particularly carbon dioxide emissions onto forest ecosystem. Among the parameter studied in the forest ecosystem is the change on soil properties towards carbon dioxide increment. The FACE structure with hexagon shape, stands more than 9 feet tall, releasing carbon dioxide gases from its poles. Soil samplings were carried out before and after the gas released at a duration of six months. Soil samples were collected within and outside the FACE research plot. Samples were also collected from the control plot, 200 meters away from the FACE area. The FACE study headed by the Forest and Environment Division, FRIM was funded by the 11th Malaysian Plan, under the “Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Tropical Forest Ecosystem and Formation of Appropriate Adaptation Strategies” project. The FACE structure was completely setup at FRIM research station in Jengka and Tekam Forest Reserve, Jerantut, Pahang in December 2016.



Identifying the location of plot for sampling

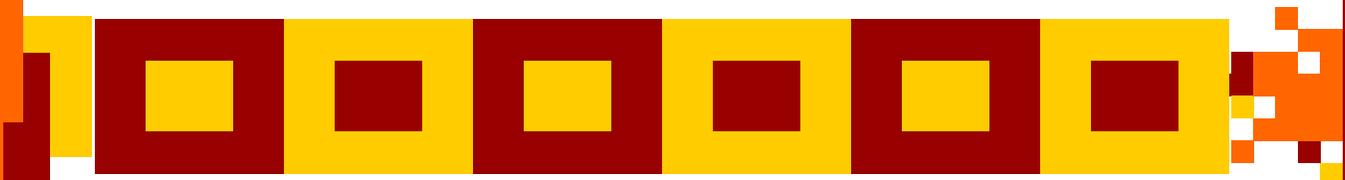


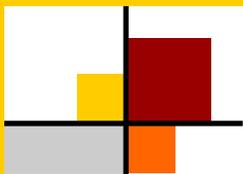
Setting up plot before sampling



Sampling of soil in the FACE area

*By: Rozita Ahmad, Azian Mohti, Nur Hafiza
Abd Halim and Mohamad Fakhri Ishak, FRIM*





The 21st World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS)

The 21st World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS) was held on August 12-17, 2018 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The event was successfully co-hosted by the Brazilian Soil Science Society (SBCS), Latin American Soil Science Society (SLCS) and the International Union of Soil Science (IUSS). As the most expressive meeting and the principal international conference in the field of soil science, this Congress was attended by 3,000 registered scientists from 101 different countries around the world. With the theme of “Soil Science: Beyond food and fuel”, this congress attempted to address and answer the question such as - How to feed a hungry planet? How to produce fuel for an energy-hungry planet? How to quench a thirsty population of our planet?



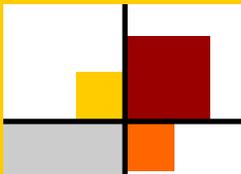
Nur Azima (second from left) with delegates from other countries

How to clean up the pollution of our planet? How to reach a balance to allow for protection of biodiversity with sustainable land management for agriculture production? These, among many other questions, are subjects related to the multiple functions of soil.

The agenda topics for the Congress are grouped into four divisions: Soil in space and time, Soil properties and processes, Soil use and management, and the role of Soils in sustaining society and the environment. The abstract topics within these divisions clearly demonstrate current direction and trends in soil research including; sustainable and regenerative agriculture; the relationship between soil health, nutrition and human health; and climate change. Therefore, with a diverse and rich program, the Congress features more than 120 oral sessions and 1,800 poster presentation over the period of the Congress. There were 8 great plenary talks scheduled every day during the congress period, in the morning session. The invited speakers talk about their experience and scientific knowledge of up-to-date issues related to the meeting theme. The most memorable plenary talk was from Dr Rattan Lal, where he addressed the agricultural revolution and the important of today's work as a bridge for younger generation.

Overall, both oral and poster sessions were loaded with a wide range of scientific information. I was given 10 minutes during the poster session to present my work to the audience and the title of the poster is 'Effect of Different Bulk Density & Temperature on Soil CO₂ flux from Tropical Peatland. As a student and a young soil scientist, this congress provided an excellent learning experience, an opportunity to build networks with other academics and experts in the field of soil science all around the world and to get an update on the latest research trends, current advances and technological breakthroughs. In addition, I have been able to present my Masters project (poster presentation) during this congress and it is a great opportunity for gaining valuable feedback from other researchers of the same or similar fields of study, to improve the work and hone my research question. Attending this Congress was worthwhile and was beneficial for my development as a soil researcher and I would like to take this opportunity to thank MSSS for the financial support to attend this Congress.

By: Nur Azima Busman (Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute)



MSSS FELLOW

Name : Prof. Dr. Zaharah Binti A Rahman

Educational history:

BSc and M.Sc. (Horticulture Sci.): 1970-1973)

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La. USA

Advanced Diploma in Soil Sci: 1977-1978 ,University of Ghent, Belgium

PhD in Agric. Sci): 1978-1982 ,University of Ghent, Belgium

Awards: MSSS Fellowship: 2007

Publications: Journals, book chapters and books in soil fertility, chemistry and plant nutrition since 1983.



Research interest:

Nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) nutrition of oil palm

P fertilizer reactions in Malaysian soils

Urea volatilization in oil palm plantations

N turnover in oil palm ecosystem

Urea-CaSO₄ reactions and uptake by short term crops

MSSS contribution:

Served as committee member for several years

Served as honorary secretary (2 terms)

Served in the organising committee of national and international conferences

A member of the editorial board, MJSS

Outlook on soil science in the next 20 years

Environmental pollution due to agricultural activities has been a cause of concern in the current plant production scenario which is heavily dependent on external input such as the use of fertilizers and pesticides. This is one of the major challenges soil scientists have to face in order to keep the environment clean and safe. Soil scientists play an important role in the understanding effects of excessive fertilizer use in soil and water contamination, and the importance of 4R in crop management.

Key to success as a soil scientist

A successful soil scientist should keep up with new crop varieties being developed for increased crop production. These newly developed crops will require new and updated fertilizer requirements for optimal yield to be achieved. Thus, soil scientists must work in collaboration with the agronomists and plant breeders to make sure that agricultural production can be met to sustain the requirements of the ever increasing world population as well as preserving the environment.

unlock the
secrets
in the soil

PLEASE COME AND VISIT OUR BOOTH AT AGRI MALAYSIA 2018

MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

马来西亚国际农业工艺展

27 ▶ 29 SEPTEMBER 2018

**SETIA CITY CONVENTION CENTRE 2
SHAH ALAM, SELANGOR, MALAYSIA**

**DRIVERS OF CHANGE IN
AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY
农业改革的动力**



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

JOURNALS (RM 10/each)

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

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

Announcements!

CONFERENCES and WORKSHOPS:

1. SOILS2019, 16-18 April 2019, Melaka , http://msss.com.my/soils2019/soils2019_brochure.pdf
2. Soil Familiarisation Tour 2018 4-5 September 2018
3. https://www.iuss.org/index.php?article_id=21

Name : Prof. / Dr. / Mr. / Ms. _____

Organization : _____

Mailing Address : _____

ISP / MSSS Membership No: _____

T-Shirt Size : S / M / L / XL / XXL

Contact : _____

e-mail: _____

Signature : _____

Date: _____

Please mail, e-mail or fax this form to :

The Organizer,
SOIL FAMILIARISATION 2018
Research Department,
United Plantations Berhad,
36009, Teluk Intan
Perak, Malaysia.
(Attn: Mr. Vijiandran)

e-mail : isplowerperak@gmail.com
Tel : 012-3579003 (VJ)
Fax : 05-6412337

Accommodation

Participants who require accommodation can book the hotel on their own in Teluk Intan or Simpang Empat area.

Registration Fee

Fee amounting to RM750/ pax for members and RM 850 for non members of both societies. Payment will cover tour bulletin, refreshments and meals during the tour (transport excluded).

Due to the limited space available participation will be on first come first serve basis.

Payment should be made to:

**THE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY
OF SOIL SCIENCE
(CIMB : 8602990800)**

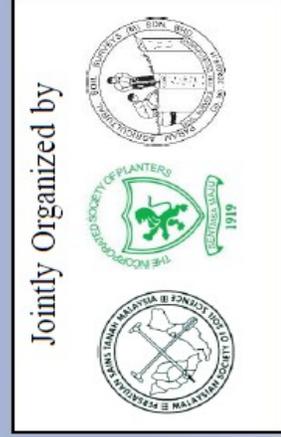
and send details to:

The Organizer,
SOIL FAMILIARISATION 2018
Research Department,
United Plantations Berhad,
36009, Teluk Intan
Perak, Malaysia.
(Attn: Mr. Vijiandran)

MSSS- ISP -PASS SOIL FAMILIARISATION TOUR, 2018 (*Marine Alluvial Soils*)



**4th and 5th Sept 2018
Lower Perak**



Background

The Malaysian Society of Soil Science and Incorporated Society of Planters (Lower Perak) would like to welcome both their members and non members to participate in a Soil Familiarisation Tour at Lower Perak District.

The purpose of this Correlation Tour is to provide a platform for fellow planters, agronomists, soil scientists and other interested parties to understand the type of soils, their properties, and classification.

To achieve the above, a few pedons have been selected that would represent the Marine Alluvial Soils (Coastal Soils) commonly found in the in Peninsular Malaysia. With the understanding of the soils, further discussion will be on the suitability of various crops and the specific agro-management inputs to realize the potential and productivity.

Who Should Attend?

- Fellow planters and Agronomists
- Soil Scientists
- Individuals involved in agriculture, resource management, land use planning and development and plantation management

Objectives

- Allow participants to understand the properties and characteristics of different type of soils and their classification
- Provide platform for participants to familiarize with the classification and description of soil pedon
- Provide a forum for participants to explore and exchange ideas and experience in management of the soils

Itinerary

3rd September 2018

1500 – 1700 Registration at Kuala Perak Estate, Bgn datuk

4th September 2018

0800 – 0900 Meet at Kuala Perak Estate and registration.

0900 – 1030 Presentation by Dr. S. Param

1030 – 1300 Examine 2 pedons Kuala Perak Estate

1300 – 1400 Lunch Break.

1400 – 1700 Examine 2 pedons at Kuala Perak Estate

5th September 2018

0800 – 0830 Assemble opposite MPOB Teluk Intan

0830 – 1300 Examine 3 pedons at Regal Estate and Bagan Pasir Estate.

1300 – 1400 Lunch Break

End of Soil Familiarisation

Directions and GPS Coordinates of all organizing estates would be provided to participants upon successful registration.

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 poster(s)
 I wish to attend the conference dinner
 I wish to participate in the post conference tour

Title of paper/poster : _____

PAYMENT DETAILS

Amount : _____

Mode of payment : _____

Reference No : _____

Date : _____

Signature : _____

Date : _____

THE ORGANIZERS



Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) is a non-government organisation (NGO) in Malaysia engaged in promoting the study of soil science within the context of agriculture. Inaugurated on April 2, 1971 with 26 founding members, MSSS has since grown into a full-fledged professional entity, having a membership of over 600 from public and private sectors, within and outside of Malaysia.



Faculty of Plantation and Agrotechnology (FPA) was established in 2010 in Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM). The mission of the faculty is to play the vital role in producing well-trained professionals in all areas of plantation and agriculture related industries at national and international level.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Adviser : Prof. Dr. Che Fauziah binti Ishak
 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Asmah binti Awal
Chairman : Dr. Nur Oursyna binti Boli Kassim
Vice Chairman : Norazlina binti Abu Sari
Secretary : Salwa binti Adam
Treasurer : Nurul Wahida binti Ramli
Secretariat : Nur Firdaus binti Abdul Rashid
 : Nurul Wahida binti Hani
 : Muhammad Nuruddin bin Mohd Nor

CONTACT US

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

The Secretariat
 SOILS 2019
 Faculty of Plantation and Agrotechnology
 Universiti Teknologi MARA Melaka Branch Jasir Campus
 77300 Merlimau
 MELAKA MALAYSIA
 (Attn: Madam Nur Firdaus binti Abdul Rashid)

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 ☎ +60 62 645 232
 ✉ soilsconference2019@gmail.com

JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY :



SOILS 2019

SOIL SCIENCE CONFERENCE OF MALAYSIA

Sustainable Soil Management and Conservation

16-18 APRIL 2019
HOTEL EQUATORIAL, MELAKA



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Sustainable soil management and conservation is one of the key environmental, social and economic issues faced in the world today. Increasing global population, globalization of markets, reduced soil fertility and increased of combination of chemical and mechanization have placed greater pressure on soil resources.

The SOILS 2019's theme, "Sustainable Soil Management and Conservation" embodies a resonating drive for academicians, researchers, industries, institutions, agencies and organizations to discuss on current issues and efforts on soil management to achieve greater sustainability of soil resources.

OBJECTIVES

- To share knowledge and recent information on sustainable soil management and conservation in agriculture and plantation sector
- To promote interdisciplinary and inter-organization networking collaboration towards achieving sustainable soil management and crop production

TOPICS/SCOPES

- Management of plantation soil
- Management of peat and other wetland soils
- Soil genesis and classification
- Soil physical and conservation
- Soil fertility and nutrients management
- Soil microbes and health
- Soil management for land improvement

PARTICIPANTS



National/Local government agencies/officers



Academicians/Researchers/Agonomists



Plantation Manager/Assistant/Officer



Individuals involved in Agriculture sector/Oriental participants

IMPORTANT DATES

Early bird registration	Before 18 January 2019
Extended abstract submission	18 January 2019
Conference	16 & 17 April 2019
Post Conference tour	18 April 2019

REGISTRATION FEES

Early Bird Registration (Before 18 January 2019)	
MSSS Member	RM 650.00
Non-MSSS Member	RM 750.00
Student*	RM 450.00
Post conference tour	RM 60.00
Regular rate (After 18 January 2019)	
MSSS Member	RM 750.00
Non-MSSS Member	RM 850.00
Student*	RM 550.00

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

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

The post conference tour is limited to 40 people on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. The post-conference tour will cover the cost of logistic, materials and meals.

All payment should be in the form of online transfer, cheque/bank draft and purchase order (PO) payable to:

Account Holder : THE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE
Account No : 6602990800 (CIMB BANK BERHAD)
Address : Ground Floor, Block B, Bangunan Pusat Pelajar, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

Branch code : 1212
Swift Code : CTBBMYKL
Payment Reference : SOILS2019 and participant full name

CALL FOR PAPERS

In conjunction with the SOILS 2019 theme, papers of relevant topics within the conference theme are invited for 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), introduction, materials 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 size A1 paper. Posters submitted will be eligible for "Best Poster Awards".

VENUE

ADDRESS : HOTEL EQUATORIAL,
 BANDAR HILIR,
 75000 MELAKA,
 MALAYSIA

TEL NO : +60 6-282 8333
FAX NO : +60 6-282 9333

ACCOMMODATION

Delegates are advised to arrange their own accommodation. The nearest hotels recommended are as follow:

The Imperial Heritage Melaka	+6 06-289 9000
Haffren Hotel Melaka	+6 06-286 9696
Novotel Melaka	+6 06-289 8222
Fenix Inn	+6 06-281 5511
Malacca Straits Hotel	+6 06-286 1888

Several choices of hotels are also found within the vicinity of the venue. Payment should be made directly to the hotel of your choice upon check in.

MSSS Newsletter

Page 12

www.msss.com.my

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;

YOUNG SCIENTIST AND SENIOR 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

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.

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 jejanya@frim.gov.my or rosazlin@um.edu.my and for photos .jpg is preferred.

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/instruct.php>



MEMBERSHIP



1. Lee Chown Yee (1035)
2. Muhammad Nuruddin Bin Mohd Nor (1036)
3. Salwa Adam (1037)
4. Mohd Naquiuddin (1038)
5. Ong Jyh Seng (1039)
6. Low Wei Hong (1040)
7. Mong Wei Qi (1041)
8. Ang Wee King (1042)

Contact us

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

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*