



MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE (MSSS)

NEWSLETTER

Aug 2015 Issue 2

Editorial Board

Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan

Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah

Advisor: Dr. Wan Rasidah A. Kadir

Management Committee 2015/2016

President:

Dr. Wan Rasidah Abdul Kadir (FRIM)

Immediate Past President:

A. P. Dr. Ahmad Husni Mohd Hanif (UPM)

Vice President (Pen. Malaysia):

Prof. Dr. Che Fauziah Ishak (UPM)

Vice President (Sarawak):

Mr. Frederick Haili Teck (DOA)

Vice President (Sabah):

Dr. Normah Awang Besar (UMS)

Hon. Secretary:

Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah (UM)

Hon. Asst. Secretary:

Mr. Mohd Rizal Ariffin (UPM)

Hon. Treasurer:

Dr. Liew Yew Ann (AAR)

Hon. Asst. Treasurer:

Mr. Kang Seong Hun (UPM)

Members:

Dr. Lulie Melling (TPRL)

Mr. Vijiandran Juva Rajah (UPB)

Mr. Mohamad Fakhri Ishak (FRIM)

Mr. Mohd Fauzi M. Yusoff (LGM)

Co-Opted Members:

Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan (FRIM)

Mr. Pupathy U. T. (Sime Darby)

Hon. Auditors:

A.P. Dr. Radziah Othman (UPM)

A.P. Dr. Halimi M. Saud (UPM)

MSSS Journal Chief Editor:

Prof. Dr. Che Fauziah Ishak (UPM)

Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia Rep:

Dr. Wan Rasidah A. Kadir

Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah

Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia Annual Dinner

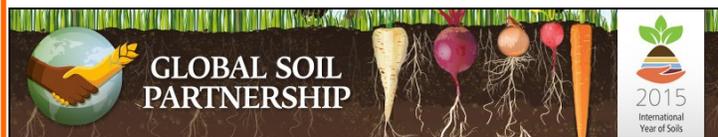


From left: Prof. Sharifuddin, Prof. Zaharah, Dr. Wan Rasidah, Dr. Khanom, Dr. Rosazlin, Mr. Amir and wife, Dr. Paramanathan and Mr. Fauzi.

The Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM) Annual Dinner was held on 10th June 2015, at the Mahkota Ballroom 2, Hotel Istana, Kuala Lumpur. The event was attended by the professionals of Member-Institutions and their guests. For the first time, the BIM dinner was officiated by a lady Guest of Honour, the Honourable YB Puan Hajah Nancy binti Haji Shukri, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department. The night began with the welcoming address by the President of BIM, Prof Dr. Mohd Khanif Yusoff, followed by an address by the honourable guest. The highlights of the Annual Dinner were the presentation of the prestigious BIM Professional Excellence Award for the different groups namely: Engineering, Construction & Property: Tan Sri Dato' Ir.

Gan Tian Leong (IEM); Pure and Applied Science: Dato' Dr. Mohd Noordin bin Keling (VAM) and Accounting, Business, Commercial and Legal: Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman (CILTM). BIM Lifetime Achievement Award for the year 2015 was presented to YB Senator Tan Sri Dato' Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman (RISM). Eight members of the Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) attended the dinner to support BIM as a one of the Professional of Member-Institution.

Photo & Text by Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah



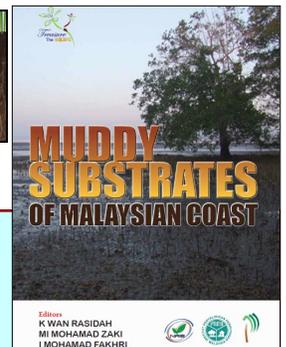
BOOK REVIEW

Title: Muddy Substrates of Malaysian Coast

Publisher: Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)

Editors: K Wan Rasidah, MI Mohamad Zaki & I Mohamad Fakhri

ISBN: 978-967-0622-29-3



The book highlights the importance and dynamics of muddy substrates by bringing together various authors with vast knowledge on mangrove ecosystem and its substrates. Readers will discover the different types of mud, from shallow to deep massive structure; mud sampling techniques using innovative sampling; the chemistry and fertility of muddy substrates; soil-vegetation interactions and the features of coastal parent material. This publication is timely to address the importance of muddy substrates which are susceptible to coastal erosion and sensitive to land use changes. The decline of mudflats and mangrove areas due to strong winds and waves could seriously affect our food supply. The book stresses that soil type is one of the major confounding factors in sustaining vegetation and preventing coastal erosion. Interesting case studies on healthy and deteriorating mangroves from the southernmost tip of mainland Asia in Tanjung Piai, Johor to the northern area of Peninsular Malaysia in Kuala Sanglang, Perlis are highlighted here. Each chapter is written with clarity and complimented with picturesque images to enable the general public, stakeholders and decision makers to easily understand its content. This book will help readers to familiarize and appreciate the mangrove soil ecosystems and is a must for research enthusiasts as currently few references are available on mangrove substrates. *Reviewed by Mr. Tariq Mubarak Husin, Wetlands Branch, Forest Research Institute Malaysia.*

Assessment of nutrient losses and fertiliser efficiency on mature oil palm



Oil palm requires large quantities of fertilisers to sustain high yields and it is the largest cost element taking up about 60% of field upkeep cost. Mineral or straight fertilisers had been the major source of fertilisers in the industry, owing to its relatively cheaper prices and the possibility to vary nutrient inputs for each individual field. However, use of straight fertilizers requires higher application frequency, which could be labour intensive. Compound and controlled released fertilisers is a possible alternative for straights as it could be applied in lesser frequency, which is beneficial in current times where the industry is facing a shortage in labour force. On another note, soil and nutrient losses studies through surface runoff, erosion and leaching under the oil palm environment were carried out by a number of scientists. However, most of these studies have only addressed nutrient losses influenced by various soil type, palm age, terrains and erosion control measures. Studies on the effect of fertiliser forms comparing controlled released fertiliser, compounds and straights on nutrient losses are lacking. Thus a study was conducted to study the effects of fertiliser forms to assess loss of primary nutrient (i.e. N, P, K and Mg) through surface runoff and leaching. This study aims to quantify the nutrient losses between the three aforementioned fertilisers through surface runoff under a mature oil palm environment. To confirm the findings, a replicated field experiment was conducted with straights and compound fertilisers as treatments. Compound fertilisers were applied at 25% lower nitrogen rate compared to the standard nitrogen input. Yield parameters were measured for five years at every harvesting round. Preliminary findings had indicated that compound fertilisers have shown marginally lower nitrogen, potassium and runoff water compared to straights, thus showing a possibility of applying compound fertilisers. We conclude that application of compound fertilisers can be reduced by 15% compared to straight fertilisers whilst meeting the nutrient requirement for the crop. *Photo and text by Mr. Vijiandran Juwa Rajah, United Plantations, Teluk Intan .*

CALL FOR PAPERS -15th International Peat Congress 2016

IMPORTANT DATES

Programme & Announcement	31 st Dec 2015	Third Announcement
	1 st Jul 2016	Final Programme
	15 th – 19 th Aug 2016	15 th International Peat Congress 2016
Registration	15 th Sep 2015	Registration Open
	31 st Mar 2016	Early Bird Registration Close
	31 st May 2016	Normal Registration Close
Abstracts Submission	15 th Sep 2015	Open Call for Abstracts
	30 th Nov 2015	Abstract Submission Deadline
	30 th Dec 2015	Notification of Paper's Acceptance/Rejection
	15 th Feb 2016	Extended Abstract Submission Deadline

Dear MSSS members, The 2nd Circular on IPC 2016 can be viewed at <http://www.ipc2016.com/>. Come and join us!



2015
International
Year of Soils

Regional Consultation Workshop on Sustainable Management and Protection of Soil Resources

Photo and Text: Dr. Wan Rasidah Kadir, President, MSSS

Regional Soil Partnerships was established among interested and active stakeholders on soil. These RSPs will work in close coordination with FAO Regional Offices and will establish an interactive consultative process with national soils entities (soil survey institutions, soil management institutions, scientific soil societies, and soils scientists working in land resources, climate change and biodiversity institutions/programmes, etc), as well as with regional soil science societies and other relevant regional mechanisms under the various related conventions. Regional Soil Partnerships will build on existing regional networks or collaborative processes, linking national and local networks, partners, projects and activities to ensure that the partnership process is country-driven.

During the Regional Conference on Soil Information in Nanjing, China from 8-11 February 2012, the Asian Soil Partnership (ASP) was established. ASP will initiate the Asian Soil Information System and capacity building with the support of FAO. The Regional Implementation Plan will follow suit after the approval of Global Plans of Action. The objectives of the current workshop which took place from 13- 15 May 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand were to

- to increase awareness on the fundamental roles of soils for human well-being, food and nutrition security, sustainable development and climate change adaptation and mitigation by celebrating the International Year of Soil
- to review the soil priorities (by sharing experiences and lessons learned) in the region towards a full promotion of sustainable soil management through a network of stakeholders under the umbrella of the Asian Soil Partnership
- to consolidate the Asia Soil Partnership (ASP) by establishing a steering committee and working groups as per the Regional Soil Partnerships guidelines
- to review and finalize the ASP Implementation Plan and discuss about the way forward

The first day started off with the briefing of the objectives and the concept of the workshop. The FAO representative gave an account on the Global Soil Partnership and the Asian Soil Partnership forum, followed by presentations by various country representatives on issues related to current status on soil resource use, management and constraints and relevant national policy and strategy. The 2nd day witnessed the establishment of the ASP Steering Committee via voluntary acceptance and nomination by the participants. The selection of the country representative for the Working Group on the GSP Pillars and the review on the finalization of the ASP Implementation Plan were also done. The finalization and the approval of the ASP Implementation Plan and the preparation of an IYS communiqué were ratified on the 3rd day. Malaysia under the ASP umbrella will strive to actively participate in the GSP Pillars which states:

Pillar 1: Promote Sustainable Management of Soil Resources for Soil Protection, Conservation and Sustainable Productivity

Pillar 2: Encourage investment, technical cooperation, policy, education awareness and extension in soil

Pillar 3: Promote targeted soil research and development focusing on identified gaps, priorities and synergies with related productive, environmental and social development actions

Pillar 4: Enhance the quantity and quality of soil data and information: data collection (generation), analysis, validation, reporting, monitoring and integration with other disciplines

Pillar 5: Harmonization of methods, measurements and indicators for the sustainable management and protection of soil resources

Dr. Wan Rasidah Kadir and Mr. Hj. As'ari Hasan were invited on their capacity as the President of Malaysian Society of Soil Science and the national Focal Point to the GSP, respectively to this event as country representatives to lead and disseminate information to the Regional Soil Partnership Working Group.



Mr. Hj. As'ari is seen 3rd from right .



Country representatives of the GSP workshop .



Has faming become a soil forming factor?

1st Announcement

SOILS 2016

Soil Science Conference of Malaysia
2016

*Soil Improvement for Sustainable
Crop Production*

5 - 7 April 2016

TH Hotel & Convention Centre,
Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu



Jointly Organized by:



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Advisor

Dr. Wan Rashidah Wan Abdul Kadir

Chairman

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Amiza Mat Amin

Vice Chairman

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adzemi Mat Arshad

Secretariat

Dr. Wan Zaliha Wan Sembok

Treasurer

Dr. Iflah Hazirah Mohd Nawi

Scientific & Technical

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adzemi Mat Arshad

Publicity & Exhibition

Dr. Aidilla Mubarak

Venue & Accommodation

Dr. Yusmita Hamzah

Ceremony & Protocol

Dr. Fauziah Tufail Ahmad

Tour & Logistic

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chuah Tse Seng

EXHIBITION

Those organizations interested in displaying their products (agriculture and laboratory) during the conference are welcome. Please contact the secretariat for details.

CONFERENCE TOUR

A conference tour will be organized on 7 April 2016. A nominal fee will be charged to cover the cost of logistics, materials and meals.

REGISTRATION FORM

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

Occupation: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Tel: _____

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 participate in the conference tour

Title of paper / poster: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please mail, e-mail or fax this form with a copy of
EXTENDED ABSTRACT to:

The SOILS 2016 Secretariat
School of Food Science and Technology
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
21030 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
(Atten: Dr Wan Zaliha Wan Sembok)

E-mail: soilconference2016@gmail.com
Tel: +609-6684981 / 4980
Fax: +609-6684949



SOIL



Fun Run '15

31 October 2015
Saturday, 7.00 am

Bukit Ekspo - Faculty of Agriculture
UPM, Serdang

Organized by:



Malaysian Society of Soil science
Faculty of Agriculture & University Agriculture Park

Supported by:



ABOUT THE RUN

In conjunction with the International Year of Soil 2015, Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) supported by the Department of Agriculture (DoA) will organize a "fun run" as one of the event to commemorate the year. This fun run will incorporate games and educational activities throughout the run. The participants will be experiencing the beautiful sceneries around the Faculty of Agriculture and the green campus. The run will involve exciting activities along the 5 km route, such as soil identification, soil play and other soil fun games where participants will be exposed to soil diversity and their properties.

WHY SOIL RUN?

The purpose of the run is to promote awareness on the importance of soil to the community and at the same time to educate the public on how to conserve our soil and to preserve this precious resource. This run is also aimed to encourage a healthier lifestyle.

WHO SHOULD RUN?

Open to all and those who are keen to learn and know more about our soils.

- Soil enthusiasts
- Students (School/University)
- Public / community

A fee will be imposed and participants will be provided with a t-shirt, certificate, light breakfast and prizes for the winner.

Fees : RM 45.00
 RM 30.00 (Student)

REGISTRATION FORM

Full Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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

Payment for registration fee is to be made to
Malaysian Society of Soil Science
(MAYBANK Account no.: 014057303489)

Please e-mail or fax this form to :
 E-mail: soilsciencemalaysia@gmail.com
 Fax: 03- 62804629

Deadline for registration is on **15th October 2015**

For any enquiry, please contact;
 Mr. Fauzi : 012-6499063
 Dr. Rosazlin : 012-7041302
 Mr. Hun : 012-5574677

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.

Submission information: For text send a word document with Arial font (11) to jeanny@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/instruct.php>



FIND US on facebook at
Malaysian Society of Soil Science



Announcements!

- [Colloque AG&Bio 2015](#), Lyon France, 23- 25 Nov
- [ICMSM 2015](#), Penang, Malaysia, 7-10 Dec
- [Intersol 2016](#), Lille, France, 15-17 Mac 2016
- New publications : Volcanic Rocks & Soils
- New publications: Biochar: Production, Characterization & Applications



FAO Soil Quiz! Test your IQ!

Contact us

Malaysian Society of Soil Science
Locked bag 254,
43409 UPM Serdang,
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Website: <http://www.msss.com.my/>
E mail: soilsciencemalaysia@gmail.com

