



MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE (MSSS)

NEWSLETTER

August 2017 Issue 2

Editorial Board

Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan
Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah
Dr. Muhammad Firdaus Sulaiman
Advisor: Dr. Wan Rasidah A. Kadir

Management Committee 2017/2018

President:
Dr. Wan Rasidah Abdul Kadir (FRIM)

Immediate Past President:
A. P. Dr. Ahmad Husni M. Hanif (UPM)

Vice President (Pen. Malaysia):
Prof. Dr. Che Fauziah Ishak (UPM)

Vice President (Sarawak):
Dr. Wan Asrina W. Yahaya (UPM Bintulu)

Vice President (Sabah):
Shaharudin Bakar (Sime Darby)

Hon. Secretary:
Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah (UM)

Hon. Asst. Secretary:
Norziana Binti Zin Zawawi (MARDI)

Hon. Treasurer:
Dr. Ali Tan Kee Zuan (UPM)

Hon. Asst. Treasurer:
Dr. Liew Yew Ann (AAR)

Members:
A.P. Dr. Radziah Othman (UPM)
Mr. Vijiandran Juva Rajah (UPB)
Illani Zuraihah Ibrahim (MARDI)
Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan (FRIM)

Co-opted Members:
Dr. Arina Shairah Arina Abdul Sukor (UPM)
Muhammad Zamir Bin Abdul Rasid (MARDI)

Hon. Auditors:
Prof. Dr. M. Hanafi Musa (UPM)
Dr. Wan Zaliha Wan Sembok (UMT)

MSSS Journal Chief Editor:
Prof. Dr. Che Fauziah Ishak (UPM)

Organic farming traps carbon in soil

A new study from Northeastern University and nonprofit research organization The Organic Center (TOC), though, has reached a different conclusion: Soils from organic farms had 26 percent more potential for long-term carbon storage than soils from conventional farms, along with 13 percent more soil organic matter (SOM). Chemists Elham Ghabbour and Geoffrey Davies began by analyzing soil samples from over 700 conventional farms in 48 states. They made the alarming discovery that these samples contained little to no humic substances. Humic substances are one portion of soil organic matter, which is made up of decomposing plant and animal matter. Humic substances comprised of humin, humic acid, and fulvic acid, humic substances are a major component of healthy, fertile soil, giving it structure and water-holding ability, among other things. Ghabbour and Davies hypothesized that the dearth of humic substances was due to the high-input practices inherent to conventional farming, such as tilling and the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Humic substances can remain in the soil for hundreds, if not thousands, of years, they provide highly stable pools of carbon to support living and growing organisms. “To build up humic substances that will impact climate change is going to take decades,” she said. “But the side benefit is that as people start using the [organic] techniques that will sequester carbon, they’ll also be building healthier soil. And those benefits are exciting and tangible.” “What I’d like to do next is to see if the humic substances in organic soils are the same as in conventional soils,” said Davies. If they differ, he says, that will be another indication that with conventional farming practices such as fertilizer use, “we’re going against nature.” Ghabbour and Davies’ full study will be published next month in the journal *Advances in Agronomy*; meanwhile, the Northeastern researchers are contemplating the next leg of their soil research journey. Reference: <http://civileats.com/2017/09/11/new-study-shows-organic-farming-traps-carbon-in-soil-to-combat-climate-change/>



CHAT WITH OUR SOIL EXPERT

Name: Goh Kah Joo

Current position: Director of Research, Applied Agricultural Resources Sdn. Bhd.

Education History:

- ◆ Bachelor of Agricultural Science (UPM)
- ◆ Master of Science in Biological Computation (University of York)

Awards:

- ◆ Gold medal, Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (1982);
- ◆ Gold medal, MSSS (1982);
- ◆ BIOSIS award (Univ. of York);
- ◆ Fellow, Sustainable Oil Palm Research Unit of University Malaysia Sabah;
- ◆ Fellow, MSSS; MOSTA Outstanding Institutional Research award.

Significant Publications:

- ◆ Authored and co-authored more than 90 journal papers and book chapters
- ◆ 1 patent and 2 pending patents.

Research Interest: Soil-plant relationship with special interest in oil palm nutrition, modeling and pedometrics

MSSS contributions:

Served as committee member, Secretary, and Vice President of MSSS (1990 - 1998), as treasurer of MSSS conferences from 1991 to 1999, and as committee member of SOILTECH and MSSS Soil Tours.

Outlook on soil science on the next 20 years: Soil science will progress rapidly in tandem with advances in other related disciplines. It is our role to continuously seek new sciences, technologies, methods, and practices to answer specific questions, issues, etc with the penultimate aim of developing good, sustainable and practical soil management with increasing input use efficiency in order to accelerate the production of food, fuel and fiber on the same piece of land for the growing population. The importance of soils and good soil management is nothing new and best exemplified by the following quotation from Sanskrit, the classical, literary language developed from about 1500 B.C.,

"Upon this handful of soil our survival depends. Husband it and it will grow our food, our fuel and our shelter and surround us with beauty. Abuse it and the soil will collapse and die taking man with it".

Keys to success as a soil scientist: A strong passion for soils and soil science with absolute focus on, and dedication and perseverance in applying its principles and practices to solve problems, improve farming practices and advance knowledge. Immersing yourself in soil science is all about hands-on experience or work but just as essential love what you do and pursue your love and passion earnestly without the fear of being dirtied by soils or scorched by the sun.

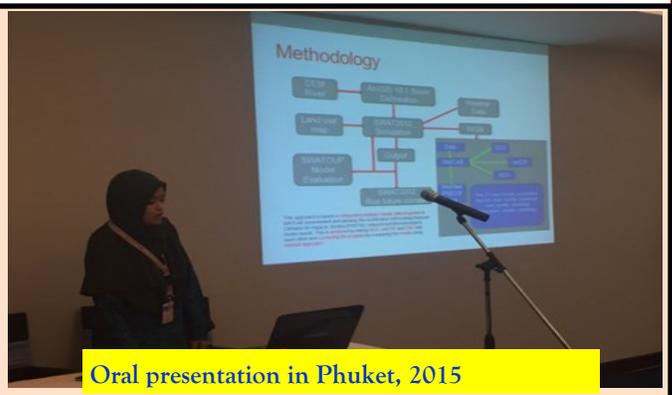


SWAT Network of Malaysia

The SWAT (Soil and Water Assessment Tools) Network of Malaysia was formed at the 2013 SWAT-SEA in Bogor, Indonesia, where delegates from local government agencies and participants from local universities met for the first time. The main objective of this network was to build a working group in assisting SWAT modelling capabilities from various subject matters, especially on solving modelling simulation issues. Other activities under this network include conducting workshops, collaboration with ASEAN SWAT network with technical visits, and active involvement in academic publications. This network was also aided by other SWAT neighboring countries. The first task of this network was to organize a 3-day beginner course for SWAT Modelling in late November 2013 and was supported by experts from SWAT Network of Vietnam. This beginner's course was conducted in MARDI with 30 participants. The course managed to increase SWAT modelling utilization especially amongst postgraduates and officers. In late November 2014, SWAT Network of Malaysia was invited to join the National GIS Conference in Vietnam, where 4 papers were presented from Malaysia. SWAT Malaysia was fortunate to visit Thailand twice in 2015. The first visit was in Chiang Mai University to meet the SWAT Network of Thailand, while the second visit was during the MARO-CENET 2015 conference, which was held in Phuket (June 2015), where 3 technical papers were presented. The International SWAT-Asia Conference IV was held in Tsukuba, Japan (October 2015), whereby 4 conference papers were presented from the SWAT Malaysia team. The most anticipated upcoming event in this year is the 5th SWAT SEEA Conference and Workshop from 23rd to 26th of October 2017. The event aims to gather all professionals and scientists from the local and international community for knowledge sharing in SWAT modelling. Please visit <http://www.msss.com.my/> or <http://swat.tamu.edu/conferences/2017-malaysia/> for more details. See you there! *Text and images by Muhammad Zamir bin Abdul Rasid, Research Officer at MARDI*



SWAT MALAYSIA First Workshop in 2013



Oral presentation in Phuket, 2015



The Malaysian delegates in Vietnam 2014



SWAT-ASIA Conference, Tsukuba, Japan 2015

Are perennial crop systems better than annuals in mitigating greenhouse gas emission?

Dairy production is one of the main emitters of greenhouse gases (GHG) to the atmosphere. The major sources of emission from dairy production at the farm scale are enteric fermentation, manure storage, manure and fertilizer use in growing feed crop and use of energy for farm machinery and drying of grain feed. To mitigate GHG emission from the dairy sector, one of the strategies proposed is to reduce growing annual crops for animal feed and alternatively increase the acreage of farm land in perennial crops in an effort to increase carbon sequestration in soil. Cropping systems with perennials are touted to have higher carbon sequestration potential over annuals due to their large belowground biomass production and turnover, and less frequent tillage compared to annuals.



Plate 1: Setting up micrometeorological instruments in the corn field.

However, the carbon sequestration and GHG mitigation potential of annual and perennial crops has yet to be quantified in field studies. In the July issue of the *Agriculture, Ecosystem and Environment* journal (DOI:10.1016/j.agee.2017.05.001), fellow MSSS member, Dr. Muhammad Firdaus Sulaiman and his colleagues at the University of Guelph, Canada, report on the results of a 3 year study comparing the net ecosystem carbon budget (NECB) and greenhouse gas balance (GHGB) of perennial and annual crop systems. The study involved measurements of net CO₂ and N₂O fluxes using micrometeorological technique over hay and corn planted side-by-side on a 16-ha plot. Import and export of carbon from both crop systems were determined from hay and grain sampling before harvest, and estimation of carbon from

manure applied to the field. Dr. Firdaus and his colleagues found that on average, NECB for hay varied from being a carbon sink to source, based on the uncertainties of measurement whereas corn was a net source of carbon. They also found that the GHGB of corn was six times higher than hay. They conclude that between the two crop systems, hay was carbon neutral whereas corn was a net carbon emitter, hence reiterating the notion that planting a perennial crop rather than an annual crop can potentially mitigate GHG emission. They emphasized, however, that the carbon neutrality and GHG mitigation potential of hay came at the expense of a lower feed production per



Plate 2 : Setting up sensors and instruments in the hay field.

land area compared to corn which in practice may not be a viable option for dairy farmers. They recommended that future studies on the carrying capacity of feed crop production systems with reduced production be carried out to investigate the viability of reducing yield to meet the purpose of crop feed systems, especially perennial hay in mitigating GHG emission from dairy production.

Text and image by Dr. Muhammad Firdaus Sulaiman, Department of Land Management, UPM



SOIL FUN RUN 2017

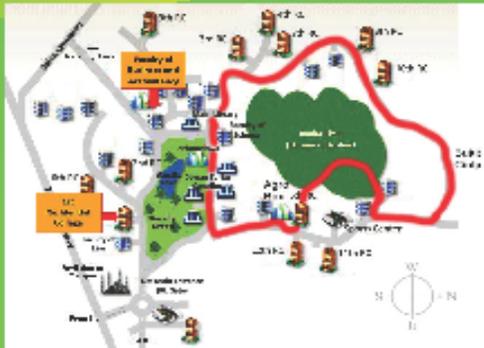


5KM

Bukit Cinta, UM
11.11.2017
Saturday
7.00 am - 10.00 am

Register Here

[http://www.racexasia.com/
event/soil-fun-run-2017/](http://www.racexasia.com/event/soil-fun-run-2017/)



CATEGORY :
MEN OPEN & WOMEN OPEN

1st : RM500.00
2nd : RM300.00
3rd : RM200.00
4th : RM100.00
5th : RM 50.00

Registration Fee:

Category	Early Bird Fee	Normal Fee
Public	RM 45	RM 50
Student	RM 35	RM 40

Early Bird Fee before 30 Sept 2017

Registration fees includes:

- * T-Shirt
- * Medal
- * Goodie Bag
- * Lucky Draw

For inquiries, please contact us at:

- * Norizan 019 - 590 7206
- * Dr Roszalin 011 - 704 1901



Registration Form:

Full Name: _____ Gender: Male / Female

Student: Yes / No T-Shirt Size: XXS / XS / S / M / L / XL / 2XL / 3XL

Phone Number : _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Method of payment: Cash / Cheque / Online Banking

Payment for registration fee is to be made payable to :
Bendahari Universiti Malaya
CIMB Acct #: 8001279998
Please e-mail or fax this form to
E-mail: soilfunrun17@gmail.com
Fax: 03- 7967 4178



THEME

MODELLING APPROACHES FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING

23-26 Hotel Bangi-putrajaya,
OCTOBER Bandar Baru Bangi,
2017 Selangor, Malaysia
 HOTEL BANGI-PUTRAJAYA



The Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) is a public domain model jointly developed by USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) and Texas AgriLife Research, part of The Texas A&M University System. SWAT is a river basin-scale model to simulate the quality and quantity of surface and ground water and predict the environmental impact of land management practices on different soil patterns and land use patterns. SWAT is widely used in assessing soil erosion prevention and control, non-point source pollution control and regional management in watersheds.



TOPICS/SCOPE

- Watershed Management Modelling
- Climate Change Applications
- Modelling Calibration Sensitivity and Uncertainty
- Crop Modelling
- Environmental Management
- Contamination and Pollution
- Nutrients and Carbon Dynamic
- GIS Application and Database and Development
- Urban Processes and Management
- Forestry Modelling



CALL FOR PAPERS

- 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)**.
- Poster must be prepared on size A1 paper.
- Poster submitted will be eligible for "Best Poster Awards"



IMPORTANT DATES

- 1st July 2017: Abstract Submission
- 21st July 2017: Early Bird Registration
- 25th July 2017: Last Date for Early Bird Registration
- 23rd Oct 2017: Registration Pre Conference Workshop
- 23rd – 26th Oct 2017: 5th SWAT Conference for South East and East Asia (SWAT SEEAV)
- 26th Oct 2017: Conference Tours

*Conference tour to Forest Research Institute Malaysia and KLCC. All participants are invited to register on first-come first serve basis.



REGISTRATION FEE

Category	Conference	Workshop
Non -Members	RM1200 (USD 300)	RM400 (USD100)
MSSS Members	RM1000	RM300
Local students*	RM800	RM250
International students *	USD200	USD75

*Please attach a verification letter from the supervisor together with the registration form for student rate. After the deadline (1st July, 2017) the registration fee will be RM200 (USD50) higher per person.

For further information about the 5th SWAT SEEA, please visit:



<http://swat.tamu.edu/conferences/2017-malaysia/>



Dr. Khairi Khalid: +60133765917
 Dr. Siti Humaira Haron: +60179096489
 Fax: +6094602208



swatseea2017@gmail.com



SWAT Network (Malaysia)

SWAT WORKSHOP 2017



23 October 2017
8.00 pm - 10.00pm



Module:
Beginner - Intermediate



HOTEL BANGI-PUTRAJAYA

5th
SWAT SEEA

THE 5TH SOIL & WATER ASSESSMENT TOOL
CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP IN SOUTH EAST &
EAST ASIA (SWAT SEEA V)

INVITED SWAT EXPERTS

P. Gassman



h-index: 35
Citation: 6800

R. Srinivasan



Texas A&M University



<http://swat.tamu.edu/conferences/2017-malaysia/>



Dr. Khairi Khalid: +60133765917
Dr. Siti Humaira Haron: +60179096489
Fax: +6094602208



swatseea2017@gmail.com



SWAT Network (Malaysia)

BOOK REVIEW

This book was written by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wan Noordin Daud and Mr. Shafar Jefri Mokhtar in Bahasa Melayu and was published by Penerbit Universiti Putra Malaysia in 2017. I find this book to be well written. I especially enjoyed reading the section on the history of rubber planting and research in Malaysia. The first chapter of the book presented statistics on the production of rubber-based products such as rubber glove and furniture. In the second chapter, the authors described the principles of demarcating rubber planting zone based on climatic, soil and topographic factors. The second chapter also described the classification system for the performance of rubber clones which will be helpful for proper selection of clones for planting. The authors briefly covered the development and cost involved in establishing a rubber plantation as well as selection of planting density and planting pattern and its advantages in chapters five and six. The two chapters also covered the fundamentals of soil science and the importance of soil characteristics for planting rubber. The authors also provided detailed information on selected soil profiles that are commonly planted with rubber. In chapter seven, the authors explained the different types of soil erosion and the importance of land and soil conservation in establishing a good rubber plantation. The authors did a fantastic job in the preceding two chapters describing the maintenance of a rubber plantation that covered fertilization and weed control. In the last chapter, the authors stressed the importance of conserving the environment when developing a rubber plantation. To conclude, this well written book on rubber would serve as a useful reference for new rubber planters and students who are interested in learning the basics of rubber planting and maintenance. *Review by Dr Liew Yew Ann, Agronomist, Applied Agricultural Resources Sdn. Bhd.*



Introduction

The Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Putra Malaysia in association with Malaysia Society of Soil Science (MSSS), Department of Agriculture of Malaysia and Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), will be organizing the 10th International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH (10th PSILPH2018) on June 25-29, 2018.

The main objective of the 10th PSILPH2018 is to address issues related to sustainable food production on soils with low pH, with the intention of achieving environmental sustainability. In tropical regions of the globe, soils with low pH are very common due to the prevailing weather conditions of high temperature and high rainfall all the year round. Low pH soils can cause injuries to the plant root systems, inhibiting overall plant growth. Agriculture and agronomic practices are continuously being developed and/or improved to overcome the problems, facing growers without necessarily neglecting the environment.

In line with the symposium theme "Achieving Sustainable Food Production on Acid Soils, the 10th PSILPH2018 aims to gather researchers, scientists, experts and academicians in the field of soil science, plant physiology and others to share and discuss the latest research findings and thoughts on current status of agriculture production and practices; thus, ensuring food security and environmental sustainability.

Important Date

- Extended Abstract Deadline | 30th November 2017**
- Notification of Acceptance | 31st December 2017**
- Early Registration Deadline | 28th February 2018**
- Normal Registration Deadline | 31st May 2018**

Registration Fees	Early Registration	Normal Registration
International participant	USD 500	USD 600
Developing/low income countries*	USD 400	USD 450
Local participants	RM1 000	RM1 200
Local students/ASEAN countries students	RM 700	RM 800
International students	USD 300	USD 350

*Please refer to Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Registration fees cover the cost of symposium materials, dinner and tour.

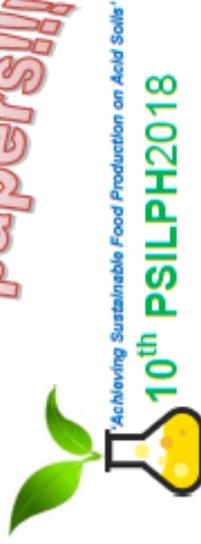
Cancellation is not allowed, but replacement will be accepted.

Payment methods

All payment should be done through telegraphic/online transfer to Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS)

Account Holder	The Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS)
Bank	CIMB Bank Berhad
Account No.	8602860800
Bank Address	Ground Floor, Block B, Bangunan Pusat UPM, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia
Swift Code	CIBBMYKL
Branch Code	1212
Payment reference	10 th PSILPH2018 and participant full name

Call for papers!!!



Achieving Sustainable Food Production on Acid Soils*

10th PSILPH2018

10th International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH

June 25-29, 2018

Palm Garden Hotel Ioi Resort, Putrajaya, Malaysia

www.psilph2018.com

Jointly organized by



With the support of



Symposium Topics

- Physical, chemical and microbiological properties of low pH soils.
- Physiological, molecular mechanisms and plant adaptation to acid soil conditions.
- Soil-microbe-plant interactions at low pH.
- Amelioration and remediation of low pH soils.
- Sustainable management of plantation and other crops on acid soils.
- Forestry and agroforestry management on low pH soils.
- Effects of soil acidity on food quality and human nutrition.

Papers not covered directly by the listed themes will also be considered. Poster session will be organized during the symposium.

Symposium Format

The symposium consists of oral presentation sessions spread over three days, and a one day mid-symposium tour. Invited speakers will also be presenting plenary lectures. Post symposium tour will be organized by the 10th PSILPH2018 committee.

Official Language

Official language of the symposium is English.

Contact Us

Secretariat
10th PSILPH2018
Department of Land Management
Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Putra Malaysia
43400 Serdang Selangor, MALAYSIA

lowrbh2018@gmail.com

Extended Abstract (Two pages)

A two-page extended abstract should include title, name, affiliation and address of all authors, email address or the corresponding author, introduction, methodology, results, discussion, conclusion and list of references.

- ⇒ Type using single-space in Times New Roman, font size 12.
- ⇒ Name of the presenter should be underlined, and the name of the corresponding author has to be started with an asterisk (*).
- ⇒ Figures and tables may be included at appropriate location in the main text.

Program Schedule

24th June 2018 (Sunday)

Registration, Welcoming reception

25th June 2018 (Monday)

Opening ceremony, Plenary lecture, Symposium topic sessions, Conference dinner

26th June 2018 (Tuesday)

Symposium topic sessions

27th June 2018 (Wednesday)

Mid-symposium tour (Melaka historical sites), Soil profile observation

28th June 2018 (Thursday)

Symposium topic sessions, Closing ceremony

29th June 2018 (Friday)

Post-symposium tour (Langkawi Geopark, Kedah) - with an additional fee

Registration Form

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

.....

Passport No.:

Occupation:

Organization:

Mailing Address:

.....

.....

Contact No. :, (H/P)

:, (Off)

E-mail:

I wish to (please tick ✓);

() present an oral paper (s)

() present a poster (s)

() be a participant

Title of paper/poster,

.....

.....

.....

Mid-Symposium Tour: Yes () No ()

Email the registration form and payment slip to:

lowrbh2018@gmail.com

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!

1. [2nd Global Soil Biodiversity](#), China, 15-19 Oct 2017
2. [SWAT SEA Conference](#), Bangi, Malaysia, 23-26 Oct 2017
3. [ESAFS](#), Pattaya, Thailand, 12-15 Dec 2017
4. [BonaRes 2018](#), Berlin, Germany, 26-28 February 2018
5. [Glinka World Soil Prize](#), 2017

THE IUSS FACT SHEET on soil degradation and desertification [here](#)



1. Mr. Marzukifli Mohamed - 0998
2. Wang Yu - 0999
3. Dr. Mohd Yusoff Abd Samad - 1000
4. Dr. Jeniffer Carson - 1001
2. Mr. Joshua Jeyenthiren Anantham -1002
3. Mrs. Patahayah Mansor - 1003
4. Mr. Kamlesh Kesavan -1004
5. Ms. Nur Hafiza Abd. Halim - 1005
6. Dr. Noorasmah Saupi -1006
7. Dr. Zakry Fitri Ab. Aziz - 1007
8. Mr. Simon Chua - 1008
9. Mr. Anantha Krishnan Nambiar - 1009
10. Dr. Enio Kang Mohd Sufian Kang - 1010
11. Mr. Muhammad Firdaus Sulaiman - 1011
12. Dr. Md Kamal Uddin - 1012

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



GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT

[HERE](#)

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.

New publications!

1. [LANDSCAPES IN TRANSITION](#)
2. [MINE SITE REHABILITATION & REVEGETATION](#)
3. [SOILS OF MALAYSIA](#)

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/instruct.php>

**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

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*