

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, Institut des Régions Arides (IRA) organizes an international meeting on the resources management and biotechnology applications in agriculture of the arid and Saharan regions.

In order to evaluate the impact of biotechnologies, research and development programs on the arid and Saharan agrosystems, the topic chosen for this meeting is:
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND BIOTECHNOLOGIES APPLICATIONS IN ARID AND SAHARAN CULTURES: PERSPECTIVES FOR THE VALORIZATION OF THE SAHARA POTENTIALITIES "

The organizing committee of the meeting is pleased to present this first announcement to invite you to join this meeting in Djerba (Tunisia) in December 2006. The conference will address key issues regarding the conservation, rehabilitation valorization and management of arid and Saharan agro-systems.

The fact that the meeting will bring together scientist and representatives of agencies and organizations actives in developments ensure that it will yield practical as well as policy relevant results

THEMES

Papers dealing with the general topic of the meeting are solicited: they will be discussed into the following 6 main sessions:

Session 1: Agrodiversity in arid and Saharan agrosystems (specific and infraspecific diversity, ecosystems diversity)

Session 2: Biotechnology and alternative cultures in arid areas (Biotechnology, improvement of plants, micro propagation, alternative culture ...)

Session 3: Water management and valorization in arid cropping systems (saline and water stress, geothermal and treated water, irrigation techniques ...)

Session 4: Cultural techniques and optimization of production factors (fertilization, crop management ...)

Session 5: Biological agriculture and protection of cultures (Development of the biologic agriculture, biologic culture techniques, defense and protection of cultures, plants diseases...)

Session 6: Systems and structures of production and commercialization (Production systems, structures of production and framing, commercialization...)

The sessions will be introduced by invited papers, followed by oral presentations of selected papers and a general discussion. Posters of each session will be summarized by a speaker

CONTRIBUTIONS

Papers can be written in French or English. The preliminary registration form with a 100-word abstract of the paper must be sent before 1st June 2006. Only the 5-6 - page papers sent before the 31 August 2006 will be reviewed and published in *Revue des Régions Arides*.

LANGUAGE

The working language of the meeting will be French and English. Translation facilities are expected to be provided

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

25/12	16.00-19.00	Venue of participants
26/12	8.30	Registration
	9.30	Official opening
	10.00	Introductory conference
	11.00	Session 1
	15.00	Sessions 2 and 3
27/12		Mid field trip
28/12	8.30	Session 4 and 5
	14.00	Session 6
	17 00	Official clature

FIELD TRIPS

A full-day excursion is planned to visit oases and cropping systems in arid zones. Agosystems conditions and management approaches will be presented at the field. The program include a visit to Institut des Régions Arides (Médenine) where research programs are presented. collection and experimental field will be visited. This excursion includes visit to historic sites .

PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION FORM

FAMILY NAME.....
NAME.....
ORGANIZATION.....

POSTAL ADDRESS.....

TEL..... FAX.....
E-mail.....

- I will attend the meeting
 I will present a paper/poster entitled

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS FEES

250 DT before 1st June 2006 (1 DT = 0,8 EUROS)
300 DT after 1st June 2006

Fees include registration, accommodation during meeting, field trip and transportation from airport

Fill out this form and return it **with your abstract** before the **1st June 2006** to

Pr. Ali FERCHICHI

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MEETING INTERNATIONAL

Resources management and biotechnologies applications in arid and Saharan cultures: Perspectives for the Valorization of the Sahara potentialities
Djerba (Tunisia) 25-28 December 2006



A renvoyer avant 1^{er} juin 2006 à

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Ministère de Recherche Scientifique, de la Technologie et du Développement des Compétences



Institut des Régions Arides
Médenine Tunisie

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