National Conference at College of Agriculture, Bahadur Sub Campus, Bahauddin Zakariya University

Agriculture in Arid Environment

March 25-26, 2013

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VENUE
College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, Bahadur Sub Campus, Layyah, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan.

THEME
“Food Security in Arid Environment”

In collaboration with
Bahauddin Zakariya University
Higher Education Commission,
Pakistan Science Foundation
Punjab Agricultural Research Board
In every region of the world, it is necessary to find or develop appropriate techniques for agriculture. A large part of the surface of the world is arid, characterized as too dry for conventional rain fed agriculture. Up till now, the techniques are so varied that only a very large volume would cover the entire subject. Research publications and its timely delivery to farmers are only a primer for improvement in agriculture. In many cases, the most suitable techniques for a particular region may be those already developed by the local inhabitants. In some cases it will be difficult to improve local techniques. This bulletin suggests that one must begin to improve local agriculture in arid zones by learning what is already there. Then both the techniques and plants may be useful in specific situations are suggested.

Water is absolutely necessary for all plant and animal life. In all arid regions a major challenge is to manage water appropriately. The major effects of heat and wind are to increase the rate of evaporation, and thus to increase the effects of aridity. Wind may also cause mechanical damage to crops. Arid regions have their fair share of disease and pest problems. However, these may often be quite different from those of wetter regions. Therefore, it is needed, scientists should be gathered and give recommendations for agriculture in arid region.

There are some formidable challenges for the scientists in meeting the future demands for food security without significant arid environmental costs. Hence, there is a great need of energy and water for efficient agricultural systems. Research and training in sustainable crop production is essential in providing innovative solutions to these challenges. A national conference on “Sustainable Agriculture in Arid Environment” has been planned to provide scientists a forum to analyze the situation and suggest pragmatic options in this regard. Thorough discussions will be helpful in formulating the strategies for ensuring food security from sustainable crop production in Arid Environment. Following symposia are proposed for the conference:

1. Conservation agriculture
2. Integrated pest management
3. Nutrient management
4. Water efficient agricultural systems
5. Use of information technology in crop production

**LAYYAH**

Layyah District present in Southern Punjab, province of Pakistan. It is located at 30°58'0 N 70°56'0E with an altitude of 143 m. District Layyah is administratively subdivided into 3 tehsils these are Chaubara, Karor and Layyah.
Layyah district has an extremely hot climate. Maximum temperature in the summer goes up to 53˚C. The temperature in winter is low due to its nearness to Koh-Suleman range of mountains. In the district, agriculture is developing but still has large sandy dunes and uncultivated land. The Indus River passes from north to south on the western side of the district. Layyah is famous for the production of watermelon, gram and citrus.

BAHADUR SUB CAMPUS, LAYYAH
Bahadur Sub Campus was established in 2009. The Campus is offering seven master degrees programs and two bachelor degree programs. Distance Education Program was started in the Campus in 2011. In the Campus, the College of Veterinary Sciences was established in 2011. In the same year, the Honorable Chief Minister of Punjab approved the establishment of the College of Agriculture at Bahadur Sub Campus, BZU in 2011. The class of B. Sc. (Hons) Agri. started in 2012 at the College.

HOW TO REACH LAYYAH
At MM road (Multan Mianwali) Chowk Azam is situated. Layyah is at the distance of 26 km from Chowk Azam. In Layyah Bahadur Sub Campus is located at the distance of 1.5 km from fountain squire (Fawara Chowk) on Kachehri road.

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE
The official languages of the conference are both English and Urdu.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
Abstracts should be sent through email as Microsoft Word document at conferencelayyah@gmail.com Please indicate the “abstract and corresponding author name” in the subject line. An email confirming the receipt of the abstract will be sent to the presenting author. Abstracts will not be accepted by fax. Deadline for receipt of abstracts for oral presentation is February 10, 2013.

REGISTRATION
All participants of the conference need to register as per the details given below. The registration fee covers conference, meals and mid-season refreshments.

Local Participants  PKR 2000
Students  PKR 1500