

In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Soil Science News

Quarterly Newsletter of Soil Science Society of Pakistan

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From Editor Desk

Commendation! 18th International Congress of Soil Science

On the behalf of the soil science community of Pakistan, we commend the Executive Council of Soil Science Society of Pakistan as well as Organizing Committee, Technical Committee and other committees (Technical, Food, Transport, Accommodation Committees) for organizing the

News and Views

18th International Congress of Soil Science

The Soil Science Society of Pakistan organized its 18th International Congress of Soil Science, 11-13 February, 2020, at Sindh Agriculture University, Tando Jam, Hyderabad. Theme of the Congress "Wise Soil Management Ensures Better Environment and Livelihood" was well tuned with the prevailing agricultural situation nationally and internationally.



Inaugural Session: From left to right - Mr. Nazze Ahmad Keerio, Mr. Qasim Siraj Soomro, Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi, Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi (Chief Guest), Prof. Dr. Mujeeb-uddin Sahrai Memon, Dr. M. Azeem Khan, Prof. Dr. Qamaruddin Chachar, Prof. Dr. Inayatulla Rajpar and Dr. G. Murtaza. Jamro

18th International Congress of Soil Science at Sindh Agriculture University, (SAU) TandoJam, 11-13 Feb., 2020 in a befitting manner. We believe that this mega professional event was not possible without the generous support of Vice Chancellor, SAU, Tando Jam – in terms of hosting the Congress and extending the requisite logistic facilities. Nevertheless, cooperation and support extended by the university management, Deans of all the academic faculties, Head of department, faculty members and students as well as supporting staff was also commendable. Other institutions like ARI, NIA and others proved crucial and helpful in making the event a success. We also acknowledge the generous contributions of sponsors from public sector and from private sectors.

The Congress was attended by a galaxy of national and international agricultural and environmental scientists. Registered participants of the Congress were more than 350. The congress was attended by more than 350 delegates from all over the country and abroad. The congress program included one inaugural, two plenaries (10 talks), 18 technical and a concluding sessions. There were total 582 presentations, and out of which 252 were oral and 332 poster presentations. The presentations covered almost all the disciplines of soil and environmental Sciences.

Inaugural Session Inaugural session of the Congress was chaired by Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Govt of Sindh and Prof. Dr. Mujeeb-uddin Sahrai Memon- Vice Chancellor, Sindh Agriculture University, University, Tandojam, Dr. Muhammad Azeem Khan, Chairman,



President SSSP, Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi Receiving the Chief Guest Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Govt of Sindh

Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Islamabad and Mr. Qasim Siraj Soomro, Member Sindh Assembly were guests of honor. Before start of proceedings of the session, national anthem was played and then proceedings were started with recitation from Holy Qurān. Dr. Ghulam Murtaza Jamro, Secretary SSSP/Congress Secretary briefed the participants



Vice President (KPK), SSSP, Dr. Dost Muhammad receiving the Guest of Honor Dr. M. Azeem Khan, Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Islamabad

about history and activities of the Society.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, President, Soil Science Society of Pakistan/Vice Chancellor, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Muzaffarabad, the Chief Guest and the participants. He also thanked the Vice Chancellor and management of the Sindh Agriculture University for extending logistic facilities and sponsors (Pakistan Science Foundation, Fatima Fertilizers Company, Engro Fertilizers, Crop Life Association Pakistan, FBT, ICI Pakistan, Auriga Group of Companies, Jaffar Group of Companies, Sayban Group, Advanced Seeds, FMC Corporation, Fauji Fertilizer Company, Creative Irrigation, Kanzo Ag, Neu Chem, Patron Chemicals, Tara Group,

Evantis, Global Seed Link, Sun Crop Pesticides, Agrohita, Islamia University, Bahawalpur, Sindh Agriculture Growth Project, Livestock component, Agriculture Research and Agriculture Extension.) for providing funds for holding the Congress.

Prof. Dr. Mujeeb-uddin Sahrai Memon- Vice Chancellor, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam and other guest of honors congratulated the Congress Organizers for holding the 18th Congress of Soil Science at Tandojam and choosing the theme "Wise Soil Management Ensures Better Environment and Livelihood". The theme is appropriate and timely due to genuine and increasing concern regarding soil and environment

deterioration and their impact on Livelihood. Dr. Memon added that the goal is to produce more from less by reducing losses (i.e., water, nutrients, soil) and enhancing eco-efficiency of inputs (i.e., fertilizer, irrigation water, energy). He said it was very pleasing to note that the Soil Science Society of Pakistan is one of the most active and vibrant societies in the country and the ongoing Congress represented the largest forum of soil and environmental scientists which included all major soil and environment disciplines.

Cultural Gifts *Ajraks* (a unique form of blockprinted shawl) were presented to chief guest and guest of honors by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, President Soil Science Society of Pakistan and Prof. Dr. Mujeeb-uddin Sahrai Memon- Vice Chancellor, Sindh Agriculture University, University, Tandojam.

Keynote speaker, Professor Dr. Zahir A. Zahir, Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture Faisalabad said that Pakistan is blessed with a diversity of soil resources but due to over-exploitation and inappropriate land use we are deteriorating the precious soil resource base. He emphasized that soil science community must strive for conserving the precious soil resource base, sustaining and improving its productivity and ensuring its environmental quality by adopting eco-friendly soil management practices.

Bestowal of Society's Awards

During Inaugural Session of the 18th Congress, Soil Science Society of Pakistan recognized the services of their outstanding



Prof. Dr. D. Sahrai Memon decorating the guests with traditional sindhi shawl "Ajrak"



Inaugural Session: From left to right; top - Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi, Prof. Dr. Mujeeb Sahrai Memon, Dr. M. Azeem Khan, Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi, bottom - Mr. Qasim Siraj Soomro, Dr. Z. A. Zahir, Prof. Dr. I. Rajpar and Dr. Murtaza. Jamro

members for the promotion of Soil Science profession by conferencing following awards:

Agriculture, Rawalpindi

3. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yaseen, Director, Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

4. Prof. Dr. M. Jamal Khan Khattak, Chairman, Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar

C) Services to the Society

1. Prof. Dr. Zia-ul-Hassan Shah, Department of Soil Science, Sindh



Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi (Chief Guest) presenting Society's Award – Honorary Membership to Dr. Kazi Suleman Memon, Dr. Zahir Shah (received by Dr. Dost Muhammad); Fellowship to Dr. M. Mahmood-ul- Hassan, Dr. M. Tariq Siddique, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yaseen, Prof. Dr. M. Jamal Khan Khattak.

A) Honorary Memberships

1. Dr. Kazi Suleman Memon, Professor (Rtd.) Department of Soil Science, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam
2. Dr. Zahir Shah, Professor (Rtd.), Dean, Faculty of Crop Production, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar

B) Fellowships

1. Dr. M. Mahmood-ul-Hassan, Chief Scientific Officer (Rtd.), Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad
2. Dr. M. Tariq Siddique, Associate Professor (Rtd.), Institute of Soil Science, PMAS-University of Arid



Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi (Chief Guest) presenting Services to Society Award to Prof. Dr. Zia-ul-Hassan Shah (received by Dr. Inayatullah. Rajpar), Prof. Dr. Mehrunisa Memon, Mr. Nisar Ahmad (received by Dr. Maqsood) and Mr. Khalid Tanveer (received by Dr. Dost Muhammad

Agriculture University, Tandojam

2. Mr. Khalid Tanvir, SFO (Rtd.), Ayub Agriculture Research Institute, Faisalabad
3. Prof. Dr. Mehrunisa Memon, Department of Soil Science, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam
4. Mr. Nisar Ahmed, Agriculture Chemist, Biochemistry Section, Ayub Agriculture Research Institute, Faisalabad

D) SSSP Gold Medals

Seven SSSP Gold Medals were conferred to fresh students graduated in Soil/Environmental Sciences from Agriculture Universities of Pakistan during 2019.



Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi (Chief Guest) presenting Society's Gold Medals to Mr. Moeed Ahmed, Mr. Aqarab H. Gondal, Miss. Sana Noreen, Mr. Sana Gul, Mr. Rahimullah, Miss. Durshana Khan, and Mr. Nishan Ali



L-R, top - Prof. Dr. M. Yaseen, Prof. Dr. Z. A. Zahir, Dr. M. T. Rashid, Dr. Shahid Hussain; bottom Dr. Nizamuddin Depar, Dr. Nadeem Tariq, Prof. Jamal Khattak, Dr. Abdul Wakeel at Plenary Session.

1. Mr. Moeed Ahmed, Punjab (Zone -1), University of Agriculture Faisalabad
2. Mr. Aqarab Husnain Gondal, Punjab (Zone-II), Uni. of Sargodha

7. Mr. Nishan Ali, AJ&K, University of Poonch, Rawalakot.
- Chief Guest of the ceremony, Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Govt of Sindh, congratulated all



Artists are performing at Gala Dinner

3. Miss. Sana Noreen, Punjab (Zone-III), Islamia University, Bahawalpur
4. Mr. Sana Gul, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, University of Agriculture, Peshawar
5. Mr. Rahimullah, Baluchistan, Baluchistan Agriculture College, Quetta
6. Miss. Durshana Khan, Sindh, Sindh Agriculture University, Tando Jam

the award recipients. In his inaugural address, he said that soil is not only cultivatable medium for producing crops but a natural asset on which all creature's ecosystem biodiversity and life depends. He further stressed that we have to maintain and conserve soil at levels in order to live a secure life.

Plenary Sessions Subsequent to the inaugural session, there was two Plenary Sessions, in which leading scientists, i.e., Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yaseen,



Concluding Session: L-R, Dr. I. Rajpar, Prof. Dr. M. Sahrai Memon, Mr. M. Ismail Rahu, Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi, Prof. Dr. Qamaruddin Chachar, Mr. Hidayatullah Chhajro, Mr. Noor Muhammad Baloch, and Dr. Ghulam Murtaza Jamro



President SSSP, Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi Receiving the Chief Guest (Closing Session) Mr. M. Ismail Rahu, Minister for Agriculture, Govt of Sindh.

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan; Prof. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad; Dr. Muhammad Tahir Rashid, EnviroLead, Calgary, Alberta,



Committee evaluating poster presentations

Canada; Dr. Suleyman Taban, Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey (video presentation); Prof. M. Jamal Khan Khattak, University of Agriculture, Peshawar, KP, Pakistan; Dr. Kulbhushan Grover, New Mexico State University, USA (Video presentation); Dr. Abdul Wakeel, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan; Dr. Shahid Hussain, Engro Fertilizers Limited, Pakistan; Dr. Nizamuddin Depar, Nuclear Institute of Agriculture, Tandojam, Pakistan and Dr. Nadeem Tariq, First Biotech LLC, Lahore, Pakistan, highlighted the causes of natural resource and environment degradation and proposed management strategies for sustaining agriculture and the environment.

Concluding Sessions

The concluding session was chaired by Mr. Muhammad Ismail Rahu, Minister for Agriculture, Govt of Sindh and Prof. Dr. Mujeeb-uddin Sahrai Memon, Vice Chancellor, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam; Mr. Hidayatullah Chhajro, Director General, Agriculture Extension, Sindh; Mr. Noor Muhammad Baloch, Director General, Agriculture Research, Sindh

were the guest of honors.

The proceeding of the concluding session was started with the recitation of Quran and then National Anthem was played. Dr. Ghulam Murtaza Jamro, Secretary SSSP/Congress Secretary briefed the participants about the congress proceedings and activities taken placed during the last two days. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, President, Soil Science Society of Pakistan/Vice Chancellor, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Muzaffarabad, welcomed the Chief Guest, Guest of Honors, participants and sponsors.

Cultural Gifts – Ajraks were presented to Chief Guest and Guest of Honors by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi, President Soil Science Society of Pakistan and Prof. Dr. Mujeeb-uddin Sahrai Memon-Vice Chancellor, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam.

Dr. M. Mahmood-ul- Hassan presented the recommendations of congress and best poster presentation awards were also conferred during the session. Chief Guest, Mr. Muhammad Ismail Rahu, highlighted the importance of soil quality, emphasized to adopt wise soil management practices with special focus on climate smart agriculture. Further, he assured that he will put efforts to implement the congress recommendations at government level. Professor Dr. Sahrai, thanked Executive Council, SSSP for holding congress at SAU, Tandojam. He assured that he will provide similar support to SSSP activities to be held at SAU, Tandojam.

At the end, shields and appreciations certificates were distributed among the conveners and members of different organizing committee, local organizing committee, media and sponsoring organizations.

Best Poster Presentation Awards

A Committee was constituted for evaluation of best poster presentation. The committee was comprised of 1) Dr. Tariq



Mr. Abdul Bari Pitafi (Chief Guest) presenting 1st, 2nd and 3rd Best Poster Awards to Miss Fatima Khan, Mr. Amanat Ali and Miss Bushra Urooj Panhwar (received by Abdullah Keerio)



L-R top - Mr. M. Ismail Rahu, Prof. Dr. M. Sahrai Memon, Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi, Dr. G. Murtaza Jamro, bottom - Dr. M. Mahmood-ul-Hassan, Dr. M. Tariq Siddique, Dr. M. Tahir Rashid, Dr. Shahzada Sohail



Siddique, Associate Prof. (Rtd.) PMAS- University of Arid Agriculture Rawalpindi, 2) Dr. Muhammad Saleem Sarki, Department of Soil Science, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam and 3) Dr. Muhammad Sharif, Baluchistan Agriculture College, Quetta. Following scientists were the recipients:

1st Position – Miss Fatima Khan, Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Punjab

2nd Position – Mr. Amanat Ali, Nuclear Institute of Agriculture, Tandojam

3rd Position – Miss Bushra Urooj Panhwar, Sindh Cotton Research Institute, Sakrand

Congress Recommendations

The 18th Congress of Soil Science (themed “Wise soil management ensures better environment and livelihood”) was



held at Sindh Agriculture University, Tando Jam on February 11-13, 2020. The congress was attended by more than 350 delegates from all over the country and abroad. There were total of 582 presentations, and out of which 252 were oral and 332 poster presentations. The presentations covered almost all the disciplines of soil and environmental Sciences. A committee was constituted by the Society for formulating recommendations of the Congress emanating from the proceedings and the discussions. The recommendations were as under:

1. There was general consensus that climate change is an established phenomenon all over the world. This has impacted Pakistan as well, and caused increased variability in rainfall pattern, increased risks of floods and droughts, severe water-stressed conditions in arid and semiarid region, food insecurity due to reduced agriculture productivity. Therefore, climate smart practices need to be adopted for mitigation of these climatic adverse impact.

2. Measurement of actual carbon status and carbon sequestration potential of major soils of Pakistan under different ecological and environmental scenarios should be estimated and should be enhanced in soil by incorporating farm wastes and crop residues to reduce the GHGs emission to atmosphere.
3. Water use efficiency should be improved using drip and sprinkler irrigation, by timely water application, lining of water courses and by rainwater harvesting.
4. Urbanization on prime land should be discouraged at government levels while expansion of urbanization should be made on marginal land.
5. Fertilizer use efficiency for optimum yield should be improved through coating with appropriate material, adopting agronomic practices, using balanced nutrient and applying right fertilizers at right time. The integrated use of nutrients such as chemical fertilizers, organic sources

and bio fertilizers should be encouraged.

6. Encourage the production and use of value-added fertilizers that release nutrients according to need of the crop efficiently are environment friendly.
7. Bio-fertilizers can save substantial cost by rationalizing the chemical fertilizers. Future research should be focused on using specific as well as microbial consortium for developing biofertilizers to save the environmental and soil eco-system.
8. Quality control of agriculture inputs that's of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides should be monitored at different stages from production, marketing and use at farm level.
9. Land degradation factors like salinity, poor quality groundwater, nutrient mining, and erosion, need immediate attention of researchers and planned engaged in working in the field of soil and environmental sciences.
10. Long-term field experiments should be encouraged under



different agro-climatic conditions for different cropping systems for more reliable results that will help in simulating soils behavior in future.

Seminars

International conference on Climate Resilient Smart Soil Management

International conference on "Climate Resilient Smart Soil Management", was organized by Department of Soil Science, University of Haripur, 05-07 March, 2020. The international conference was comprised of inaugural session, two plenary sessions and four technical sessions and concluding session. Ms. Zartaj Gul, Minister of State for Climate Change inaugurated the Conference; Dr. M. Azeem Khan, Chairman,



Pakistan Agriculture Research Council, Islamabad was the Guest of Honor. Prof. Dr. Anwar-ul-Hassan Gilani (SV), Vice Chancellor, UoH, highlighted the potential impact of climate change on agricultural productivity and soil health. Dr. M. Azeem Khan (Chairman PARC) stressed on development of conservation technologies that are accessible for farming community. A total of 300 papers were presented orally and poster.

Prof. Dr. M. Kaleem Abbasi, President Soil Science Society of Pakistan/Vice Chancellor, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Muzaffarabad was the Chief Guest during concluding ceremony and presented the awards to the winners of model competition, best speakers, best poster awards and shields to the invited speakers. .

National Conference on "Beneficial Microbes and Sustainable Crop Production"

The Conference was organized by Department of Agronomy, The University of Agriculture Peshawar on February 19-20, 2020.

Policy Dialogue on National Agriculture and Food Security in Pakistan

Pakistan Agricultural Scientists Forum conducted the Policy Dialogue in collaboration with IPS on January 25, 2020 in



Islamabad. It was really an excellent event with legendary speakers on National agriculture and malnutrition in Pakistan.

Seminar on "Nitrogen Sustainability"

UKRI-GCRF South Asia Nitrogen Hub (SANH) conducted the seminar at University of Agriculture Faisalabad on March 12, 2020. Professor Dr. M. Yaseen, Director, Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Professor Rees, University of Edinburg, UK and

other speakers highlighted the low N fertilizer use efficiency in Pakistan and emphasized that Pakistani government should priorities to reduce greenhouse gases losses in Pakistan agriculture to join hands with global partners.

Promotion/appointment/posting

Dr. Shahid Maqsood Gill, Principal Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has been posted as Director, Land Resources Research Institute, NARC, Islamabad.



Dr. Muhammad Arshaad Ullah, Principal Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has been posted as National Coordinator, Range Management and Forestry, Natural Resources Division, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Pakistan.



Dr. Ijaz Ali, Senior Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has been promoted as Principal Scientific Officer.



Mr. Sair Sarwar, Senior Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has been promoted as Principal Scientific Officer.

Dr. Rizwan Ahmad, Senior Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has been promoted as Principal Scientific Officer.



Mr. Muhammad Abbas, Senior Scientific Officer, Southern-zone Agricultural Research Centre, Karachi, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Islamabad has been promoted as Principal Scientific Officer.

Dr. Ghulam Moheyuddin, Senior Scientific Officer, National Sugar Crops Research, Thatta, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Islamabad has been promoted as Principal Scientific Officer.



Mr. Abdul Waheed, Assistant Agricultural Research Chemist (BS-18), Soil & Water Testing Laboratory, Chakwal is transferred and posted as Assistant, Rawalpindi.

Dr. Rizwan Latif, Assistant Research Officer, Barani Agricultural Research Officer, Chakwal has been promoted to Assistant Agricultural Chemist (SF) (BS-18).

Dr. Sarfaraz Hussain, Agricultural Chemist, Pesticide Laboratory, Faisalabad, Institute of Soil Chemistry and Environmental Sciences, Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad has joined Soil Salinity Research Institute, Pindi Bhattian as Director (Look-after).



Congratulation from Soil Science News desk

Recent Ph. D. Degree Completion

Dr. Abdul Rahman has successfully completed PhD degree Department from Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar. He completed his Ph. D. research work on "Characterization and Evaluation of Rhizo-bacteria Isolated from Peas (*Pisum sativum* L.)" under the supervision of Prof. Dr Zahir Shah, Dean, Crop Production, The University of Agriculture Peshawar.

Congratulation from the desk of Soil Science News



Retirements

Professor Dr. Zahir Shah, Dean Faculty of Crop Production, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar and Honorary Member and Fellow of Soil Science Society of Pakistan retired from services on superannuation. Dr. Shah did his Ph.D from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, U.K in 1989 and postdoc from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, USA in 2004.



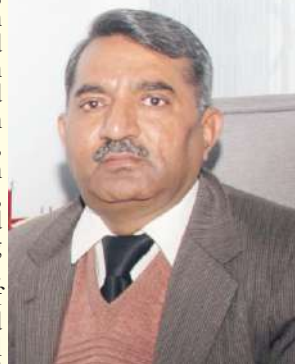
Dr. Shah started his professional 1984 as Lecturer and then gradually promoted to the position of Professor. He has established

biological N₂ fixation measuring facilities in legumes and total N, NH₄-N and NO₃-N in soil/plant samples. He quantified biological N₂ fixation in various legumes for the first time in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He has successfully completed 15 national and international research projects. Dr. Shah has published more than 120 scientific research papers; mostly impact factor journals. Moreover, Dr. Shah has produced 10 PhDs and 70 MPhil students as major supervisor.

Based on his excellent performance in academic, research and outreach, Dr. Shah has been awarded number of awards including two Gold Medals (i- President of Pakistan Award, ii-Quaid-e-Azam Scholarship for Ph.D), University Best Teacher Award (HEC), Distinguished Soil Science Service Award (SSSP).

He served Soil Science Society of Pakistan as Councilor, General Secretary, Vice President and President. He remained Editor of the Society Newsletter and regional editor of the Society Journal "Soil and Environment".

Dr. Fayyaz Hussain, Chief Scientific Officer/Director, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad has been retired after years 34 service on superannuation. Dr. Hussain earned M.Sc. (Hons) degree from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (1984) and Ph. D. from The University of the Philippines, Los Baños, Philippines. He started his professional career by joining PARC as Scientific Officer in 1986. He worked on many issues of national interest and generated valuable data. He worked on optical nutrition requirement of up- and lowland-crops grown under irrigated and barani conditions. He



worked to optimized nitrogen requirement of rice using Leaf Color Chart and nitrogen release inhibitors. He also gauged the nutrients status and requirement of citrus orchards.

Dr. Hussain executed several research projects as team member, and as Project Incharge. He has published large number of research papers published in various Journal of national and international repute, conference proceedings and reports.

Dr. Ehsan-ul-Haq, Director, Institute of Soil Chemistry and Environmental Sciences, Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad has been retired from service on superannuation. He earned M.Sc. (Hons) degree from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (1984) and subsequently did Ph. D. from the same the university. He started his professional career as Agricultural Research Officer by joining Agriculture Department, Govt of Punjab. He authored large number of research papers and reports.



Dr. Imdad Ali Mahmood, Senior Scientific Officer, Land Resources Research Institute, National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC), Islamabad has retired from services on 10-02-2020. Dr. Mahmood earned M.Sc. (Hons) degree in Soil Science from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (1990) and Ph. D. from PARC Institute of Advanced Studies in Agriculture, NARC, Islamabad. Before joining NARC as Scientific Officer in 2005, he worked in different development projects. He authored large number of research papers and reports.

We pray for good health and prosperous retired lives of our respected colleagues.

Publication

Soil Carbon – Science, Management and Policy for Multiple Benefits. 2019. Steven A Banwart, Elke Noellemeyer and Eleanor Milne

Published by CABI, ISBN: 9781786395504.

This book brings together the essential evidence and policy opportunities regarding the global importance of soil carbon for sustaining Earth's life support system for humanity. Covering the science and policy background for this important natural resource, it describes land management options that improve soil carbon status and therefore increase the benefits that humans derive from the environment. Written by renowned global experts, it is the principal output from a SCOPE rapid assessment process project.

<https://www.cabi.org/bookshop/book/9781786395504/>



News and Views for next issue of the 'Soil Science News' may be conveyed to the Society office bearers of your chapter or to **Dr. M. Mahmood-ul-Hassan** (mmh@comsats.net.pk), Editor/ **Dr. Azhar Hussain** (azharhaseen@gmail.com), Assoc. Editor, Soil Science News. The news can also be mailed at info@sss-pakistan.org