First circular

25\textsuperscript{th} International Symposium of the Scientific Centre for Fertilizers

“Significance of Sulfur in High-Input Cropping Systems”

September 5-8, 2017
Hampshire Hotel - Plaza Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands

Jointly organized by:

Groningen Institute for Evolutionary Life Sciences (GELIFES), University of Groningen, The Netherlands
International Scientific Centre of Fertilizers (CIEC), Braunschweig, Germany
Institute for Crop and Soil Science, Julius Kühn-Institut, Braunschweig, Germany
EuroChem Agro GmbH, Mannheim, Germany
(BONUS PROMISE) Phosphorus Recycling Of Mixed Substances (call2012inno-58)
Scope of the conference and research subjects welcomed

The 25th CIEC symposium is thematically dedicated to the significance of sulfur in high-input cropping systems. The reason is simply that one of the global competence centers of sulfur research is located in Groningen. Beyond this sulfur deficiency causes worldwide avoidable yield losses, diminishes the nutritional quality and reduces nitrogen utilization efficiency of crops. The Netherlands are characterized by extremely high levels of agricultural production and big animal enterprises, which induce substantial environmental problems such as release of trace gases contributing to climate change, contamination of ground- and drinking water with nitrate and non-sustainable use of the finite resource phosphorus. Besides the implementation of GAP (Good Agricultural Practice) codes and the strict compliance with rules of balanced fertilization, novel technologies such as the acidification of slurries with sulfuric acid for reducing the release of nitrogenous gases are required urgently in order to tackle these problems. Recycled fertilizer products as for instance digestates from biogas plants offer a way to utilize manures and slurries. However, aspects of phosphorus speciation, risk of contamination with organic xenobiotics and heavy metals, and infectivity by pathogens need to be evaluated in the course of fertilizer value and soil protection.

The conference will address various topics of global interest and the presentation of innovative data in fertilizer research is appreciated explicitly. The major subjects are:

- Sulfur metabolism in crops, mechanisms & applications to food security
- Increase of fertilizer efficiency by optimized nutrient ratios & nitrification inhibitors
- Strategies of efficient use of nutrients from manure, slurries & secondary raw materials
- Efficient use of phosphorus
- Balanced fertilization & nutrient balances
- Secondary nutrients: silicon & micro-nutrients

In invited lectures internationally highly acknowledged scientists will present cutting-edge research and state-of-the-art facts for each of the themes. The symposium brings together scientists from all over the world interested in the specifics of plant nutrition and fertilization in high-input systems. Participants will leave the symposium having shared ideas, having contributed to the body of knowledge concerning fertilizer use, and having made friends and contacts for future research.
PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME:

Tuesday, September 5, 2017
- 18.00 - 21.00 Registration & Get-together

Wednesday, September 6, 2017
- 08.30 - 09.00 Registration
- 09.00 - 12.30 Oral presentations
- 12.30 - 13.30 Lunch + poster viewing
- 13.30 - 17.30 Oral presentations

Thursday, September 7, 2017
- 08.30 - 12.30 Oral presentations
- 12.30 - 13.30 Lunch + poster viewing
- 13.30 - 15.30 Oral presentations
- 15.30 - 18.00 Poster introductions + presentations

Friday, September 8, 2017
- 08.30 - 17.30 Scientific excursion
- 19.30 Conference dinner

Important Deadlines
Response to the invitation and submission of abstracts: May 15, 2017
Acceptance letter of contribution: May 30, 2017
Circulation of second announcement with preliminary program: June 15, 2017
Submission of full papers for publication: any time after the symposium
Circulation of final program: August 1, 2017

Abstracts
Participants are invited to submit title and an abstract of not more than 2 pages (A4, 12 Times New Roman 12, 1.5 lines spacing, margins: top, bottom, left, right each 2cm) before May 15, 2017 to the Symposium Secretariat: c.f.alders@rug.nl. The scientific committee will review the submitted abstracts and the decision will be forwarded to the corresponding author before May 30, 2017.

Publishing
Authors of contributions accepted for presentation at the symposium are invited to accomplish a full paper. The manuscripts can be submitted to the Journal for Cultivated Plants (Eugen Ulmer KG, Stuttgart) after the Symposium. All manuscripts are subjected to peer reviewing.
Oral/Posters presentations
Participants should clearly indicate whether they prefer an oral or poster presentation when submitting their abstract.

Scientific Excursion
A scientific excursion will be organized and will give participants an insight into intensive agricultural production.

Official Language of the Symposium
Participants have to ensure that all papers and presentations are in English before the commencement of the symposium as there will be no translation facilities.

Venue & Accommodation
The symposium will be held at Hampshire Hotel - Plaza Groningen in Groningen, The Netherlands (https://hampshire-plazagroningen.nl/en/hotel-environment). The closest international airports are Amsterdam (200 km) and Bremen, Germany (200 km).

Registration
Participants need to complete the “25th CIEC Symposium registration form” and send it to Symposium Secretariat: c.f.alders@rug.nl by May 15, 2017. Lectures, abstract proceedings, coffee breaks, lunch and dinner during the symposium are available in the hotel. Participants will have to book the hotel room themselves by completing the “Hampshire Hotel Plaza CIEC reservation form”.

Participants may expect the following costs:

A. Registration fee participants: €300,- (incl. abstract booklet, get-together-party, lunches, morning and afternoon coffee/teas, conference diner and excursion).
B. Registration fee companions: €125,- (incl. get-together-party, conference diner and excursion).
C. Hotel room prices for the Symposium:
   • € 69,00 per old standard room per night / twin bed
   • € 74,00 per new standard room per night / twin bed
   • € 89,00 per comfort room per night / twin bed
   Breakfast: € 15,00 per person per day
   City tax: € 3,20 per person per night)
Symposium Secretariat

Chantal F. Alders, University of Groningen, The Netherlands (c.f.alders@rug.nl)

Organizing Committee

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Thomas Mannheim, EuroChem Agro GmbH, Mannheim, Germany
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A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO CIEC (CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DES ENGRAIS CHIMIQUE)

Founded in 1933, CIEC is the oldest scientific organization solemnly dedicated to fertilization. CIEC is a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) and actually organized as a task force with membership on invitation only. The CIEC task force consists actually on the President (Ewald Schnug, Germany) + 4 Vice Presidents: Francesco Montemurro (Italy), Zhengyi Hu (People’s Republic of China), Nils Vagstad (Norway), Luit De Kok (The Netherlands), the Secretary General Silvia Haneklaus (Germany), the deputy Secretary General Bettina Eichler-Löbermann (Germany) and the Honorary President Cristian Hera (Romania).
CIEC’S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE EVENTS

16 World Fertilizer Congresses (4 year rotation)
Italy (3), Heidelberg, Opatija, Zurich, Lisbon, Vienna, Moscow, Budapest, Nicosia, Ghent,
Beijing, Chiang Mai, Bucharest, Rio de Janeiro, scheduled: Shenyang

25 Fertilizer Symposia (annually)
Vienna (2), Benghazi, Braunschweig (2), Balatonfured, Nicosia, Berlin, Salamanca, Kusadasi,
Pulawy, Suceava, Tokat, Debrecen, Pretoria, Ghent, Cairo, Roma, Goslar (2), Santa Clara, Bari,
Helsinki, Son, Coimbra, Groningen, scheduled: Braunschweig, Ho Chi Minh City (scheduled)