

Highlights of the National Seminar on “Soil Salinity and Water Quality” 19-21 January, 2010

Indian Society of Soil Salinity and Water Quality organized the 1st National Seminar on Soil Salinity and Water Quality after its inception in August 2008. The seminar was organized in association with Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal. The seminar was sponsored by National Rainfed Area Authority, GOI and co-sponsored by a number of other organizations.

The inaugural function of the seminar was organized on 19.01.2010. Padam shree Dr. J.S.P. Yadav, former Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board was the chairman while Dr. I.P. Abrol, former DDG (NRM) presided. Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Agricultural Commissioner, GOI and President of the society, Dr. S.K. Gupta, Vice-President of the society and Dr. P. Dey, Honorary Secretary were on the dais with the dignitaries. Around 125 delegates from India participated in the seminar. The 1st volume of the Journal of Soil Salinity and Water Quality besides 3 publications from CSSRI and 3 publications from AICRP centers of Hisar, Bapatla and Bikaner were released.



Pictures from the Inaugural session

An exhibition was organized during the seminar wherein all the divisions of CSSRI showcased their activities besides few exhibits from private organizations. CSSRI Library put up its stall wherein publications from CSSRI were displayed.



Inauguration and visit to exhibition

In all 11 technical sessions were organized:

- Special Session on rainfed agriculture, salinity and livelihood
- Emerging technologies for genesis, classification and assessment of salt affected soils/waters
- Innovative technologies for sustainable management of salt affected alkali lands including salt affected lands of the rainfed regions
- Drainage and alternate land management strategies
- Innovative technologies for sustainable management of poor quality waters including salt affected lands in rainfed regions
- Bio-saline agriculture, bio-drainage, bio- and phytoremediation
- Conventional, biotechnological and physiological interventions for introducing salt tolerance in crop plants
- Energy plantations and other livelihood generating options for salt affected soils/waters
- Soil ecology, climate change and their impact on soil-, water- and bio-resources gas exchange
- Special Session on water management
- Impact assessment, socio-ecological & socioeconomic monitoring, policy research, IPR, bio safety and related issues

More than 60 papers were presented orally or through poster presentations covering the above themes.

The general body meeting of the society was organized on 20.01.2010 to review all the activities undertaken by the society since its inception and chalk out the future course of actions. It was decided to bring out a brochure of the society to be mailed to all organizations to increase the membership.

The plenary session of the seminar was organized on 21.01.2010, which was chaired by Dr. Gurbachan Singh, President of the society. The recommendations

arising from various presentations and discussions were put to the house by conveners of the sessions. The participants authorized the executive committee of the society to frame the recommendations based on broader unanimity that emerged on the recommendations of the various sessions. The final document would be put up on the website soon.

Considering the most distinguished services of the society, the Executive Committee and members of the society bestowed upon Dr. Gurbachan Singh, the fellowship of the society and conferred upon him the honorary membership of the society.



Plenary session: Finalizing the recommendations and honour to president ISSWQ

A field Visit to CSSRI farm was organized on 20.01.2010. It showcased the field activities of the CSSRI and acquainted the delegates with the ongoing research activities.



Photos of the field visit