

2015 Biochar and Sustainable Development of Agriculture Conference

Lin'an, China, November 2015

The 2015 Biochar and Sustainable Development of Agriculture conference was held November 23 – 26, in Lin'an, Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China, to celebrate the 2015 International Year of Soils. This conference was jointly organized by the Soil Chemistry Specialty Committee of the Soil Science Society of China, Zhejiang A & F University, and the Key Laboratory of Soil Contamination Bioremediation of Zhejiang Province.



The Opening Session

The opening ceremony was convened by Prof. Hailong Wang, the Chairman of the Conference Organizing Committee and the Director of the Key Laboratory of Soil Contamination/Bioremediation of Zhejiang Province. Additionally, the following provided welcoming addresses:

- Prof. Qisheng Zhang, the honorary president of Zhejiang A & F University and Academician of Engineering Academy of China
- Prof. Peihua Jin, Vice President of Zhejiang A & F University
- Prof. Renkou Xu, the deputy chair of the Soil Chemistry Specialty Committee, Soil Science Society of China
- Prof. Peikun Jiang, the Dean of School of Environmental and Resource Sciences



Attending the conference were more than 260 people from over 70 organizations including universities, research institutes, and commercial entities.

The 63 oral presentations highlighted activities in biochar research and development in China—focusing mainly on the rapid growth in biochar science and technology in recent years.

Presenters covered the following five themes:

- 1) Biochar production technology;
- 2) The impact of biochar application on greenhouse gas emissions, soil nitrogen, and phosphorus loss;
- 3) Biochar for the remediation of soil contamination;
- 4) The impact of biochar application on the soil carbon and nitrogen cycle;
- 5) An evaluation of potential environmental risks and social benefits of biochar.

This Conference provided a good opportunity for scientists to discuss their research and build new collaborations. To encourage more young people to participate in biochar research and development, the conference organizing committee congratulated a



number of postgraduate students with excellence in oral presentation awards. Encouraged by the success of this conference, most delegates voted to make the national biochar conference an annual event. For more information, please contact Dr. Hailong Wang at nzhailong@yahoo.com.