



September 2016 News from the International Biochar Initiative for Members and Supporters

IBI Thanks Iowa State University and Nanjing Agricultural University

Running an international organization can be a challenge and volunteer in-kind and financial contributions are always welcome. Recently Iowa State University and Nanjing Agricultural University have pitched in to help with IBI administration including member and donor response and internet, social media and web support. Thanks to IBI board members Robert Brown and Genxing Pan for their support which will help us update the IBI website and online resources

Nanjing Agricultural University to Launch IBI Asia October 17, 2016

IBI and Nanjing Agricultural University (NJAU) will launch IBI Asia at a meeting hosted by Genxing Pan, IBI Board member and professor of the Institute of Resources, Ecosystem and Environment of Agriculture. Dr. Pan and his team are providing administrative services to IBI and provide an important link to biochar developments in China.

3rd Asian Pacific Biomass Conference, October 19-23, Korea

Several IBI members will attend the 3rd [Asia Pacific Biochar Conference 2016](http://www.biochar.co.kr/) (APBC 2016): A Shifting Paradigm towards Advanced Materials and Energy/Environment Research October 19 - 23, 2016 at Kangwon National University in Chuncheon, Korea. The conference is chaired by Yong Sik Ok, Director, Korea Biochar Research Center at Kangwon National University, Korea and co-chairs from Japan, Australia and Taiwan. You can visit the APBC 2016 website (<http://www.biochar.co.kr/>) for more information.

See regional biochar events at [Biochar Interest Group - South East Asia \(BIG-SEA\)](#)

US Biochar Initiative Biochar 2016, August 23-25, 2016

Oregon State University College of Forestry hosted the fifth US Biochar Initiative North American biochar conference August 23-25 in Corvallis, Oregon, USA. More than 300 attendees from 45 states and provinces and 10 countries including Canada, USA, and Mexico Conferees discussed methods to advance of use of biochar in North America, linked to soil health and climate change. Workshops included instruction in the use of biochar at the garden and field scale. 90 presentations discussed policy, production, discoveries and use in forestry and biomass, agriculture and horticulture, stormwater and remediation. Exhibits included biochar products, production technologies, and other biochar resources. A post conference tour displayed biochar research at Oregon State University and biochar production at Biological Carbon, LLC.

Several visitors also attended the Far West Show in Portland, Oregon, where producers displayed biochar products. It is the largest horticultural show in the west with more than 6,100 visitors. Technical presentations from Biochar 2016 will be available online at www.biochar-us.org @USBiochar #usbi2016

Dr. Gilbert Sigua to Chair Biochar: Agronomic and Environmental Uses Community of American Society of Agronomy

Dr. Gilbert Sigua, Research Soil Scientist at the US Department of Agriculture, Coastal Plain Soil, Water and Plant Conservation Research, in Florence, South Carolina, will be the chairman of the [**Biochar: Agronomic and Environmental Uses Community**](#) of the American Society of Agronomy. The community has more than 400 members worldwide and is responsible for presenting many technical papers at the upcoming annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona November 6-9, 2016.

<https://www.acsmeetings.org/> @ASA CSSA SSSA

Africa Biochar Partnership Launched in Nairobi

On March 2 and 3, 2016, experts and stakeholders from Africa met in Nairobi to launch the African Biochar Partnership (<http://www.ecreee.org/news/launch-africa-biochar-partnership-0>). Leadership was provided by Dr. Bah F. M. Saho (ECOWAS, Cape Verde), and the BiocharPlus Project. An Interim Steering Committee was formed with the following members: Lucia Brusegan (Chair), Scou Sarr, Christopher Gadzirayi, Eward Yeboah, Bah Saho, Veronica Kitti, Anthony Tabbal, Saran Sohi, Claudia Milaroni, Clement Okia and a delegate from the African Commission.

For more information, contact: info.africabiochar@gmail.com

The IBI Online Biochar Training Course is Ongoing

Gain in-depth knowledge on biochar and biochar systems. Register for IBI's online course, [Biochar Training for Environmental Sustainability and Economic Development](#). This ten week, ongoing course provides participants an intensive training series on all aspects of biochar, presented by leading biochar experts. Learn about best-science updates on biochar, biochar production and use, how to overcome the barriers to commercialization. 19 separate lessons-each with a subject overview, a recorded audio/video presentation lasting 30 - 45 minutes and quizzes to test comprehension and retention. An optional introductory presentation on the basics of biochar allows participants to start the course with a common understanding. Course materials are presented in a user-friendly online format. Participants can access the course at their convenience over ten weeks and will receive a certificate of completion at the conclusion of the course.

Course materials are based on presentations from the June 2014 in-person biochar training course titled, "*Biochar for Environmental Sustainability and Economic Development*," hosted by the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain, and developed and presented by IBI and collaborators. For more information on member and non-member pricing and registration, please see www.biochar-international.org/online_course.

Upcoming Calendar Events

- [Asian Pacific Biochar Conference](#), October 19-23, 2016, Chuncheon, Korea.
- China-East Asian Workshop and Training on Biochar and Sustainable Agriculture, October 18-25, 2016, Nanjing China.
- [Resilience Emerging from Scarcity and Abundance 2016](#) Annual Meeting, American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America, November 6-9, Phoenix, AZ
- Ecological Farming Association (EcoFarm) conference, [Cultivating Diversity](#) Jan 25-28, 2017, Pacific Grove, CA @Eco_Farm
- [Guelph Organic Conference](#) January 26-19,217, Guelph University Center, Guelph Ontario, Canada [@GuelphOrganic](#)

See the [IBI Calendar page](#) for more events. To add an event to the calendar, send the information to info@biochar-international.org.

Recently Published Biochar Research and Resources

Dr. H. Ghafourian has published an EBook on what he calls Nano-Biochar which can be downloaded on Amazon [here](#)

Terra Preta: How the World's Most Fertile Soil Can Help Reverse Climate Change and Reduce World Hunger. Paperback, [Greystone Books](#) - May 10, 2016, [Ute Scheub](#), [Haiko Pieplow](#), [Hans-Peter Schmidt](#), [Kathleen Draper](#)

Google Scholar has become a useful site for recent publications on biochar.

[The Biochar Journal](#), by Ithaka Institute, [@BiocharJournal](https://www.biochar-journal.org/en)

If you have published work that is not included, [please email us](#).

Network with IBI Members and Supporters

A listing of all current IBI [Business](#) and [Organization](#) Members can be found on our website. For more information on membership opportunities and benefits, or to join or contribute please see: <http://www.biochar-international.org>

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