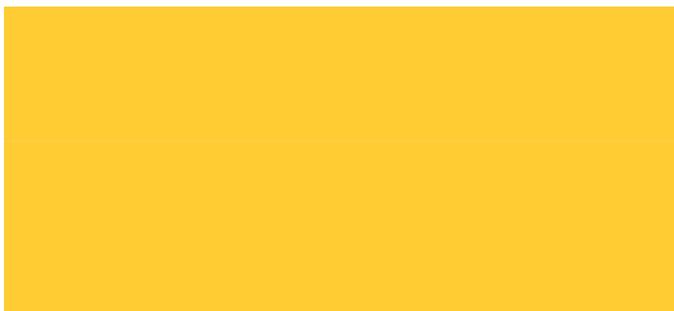


November 2008 International Biochar Initiative News



IBI's Activities at the UN Climate Change Conference in Poznan Poland December 1 - 12th

IBI will be attending the UNCCC next month to promote biochar technology as a near-term, gigaton scale climate change mitigation tool with multiple social and environmental benefits. IBI and the Biochar Energy Corporation (BEC) are hosting a joint biochar technology exhibit at the Poznan Technology Exhibition, Pavilion Five (Section G; Miscellaneous Booth 5G), from Dec. 1 - 14, and will offer additional information at an office in the same pavilion.

Additionally, IBI will host a seminar scheduled from 4:00 - 4:50 pm on Friday, December 5, entitled: "Biochar: A Carbon-Negative Technology to Combat Climate Change and Enhance Global Soil Resources." The seminar will be held in the Discussion and Banquet Room at the Poznan Technology Exhibition Hall 5.

For more information on IBI activities and the UNFCCC Conference, go to:
<http://www.biochar-international.org/unpoznactivities.html>

Upcoming Regional IBI Conference of the Asia Pacific Region: May 17 - 20, 2009, Australia

The Regional Conference of the IBI Asia-Pacific Region will be held in the Watermark Hotel, Gold Coast Australia. The conference will feature speakers from the Asia Pacific region on the latest scientific research and business opportunities for development of the biochar industry. It will bring together academics, farmers, media, policy makers and industry from around the region. Hosted by The Australia New Zealand Biochar Researchers Network and the Japanese Biochar Initiative, the conference has confirmed the following invited speakers: Prof Tim Flannery (author of 'The Weather Makers' and Australian of the Year, 2007) and Prof Johannes Lehmann, Cornell University USA, Editor of the book "Biochar for Environmental Management."

For more information on this conference (including a call for abstracts, registration and prices, sponsorship opportunities) and other upcoming conferences, visit:

<http://www.biochar-international.org/upcomingibiconferences.html>

New Article in *The Open Atmospheric Science Journal* Mentions Biochar for Carbon Sequestration Opportunities

Target Atmospheric CO₂: Where Should Humanity Aim? by James Hansen of the NASA/Goddard Institute for Space Studies as well as nine other authors stresses the need to reduce carbon dioxide from its current 385 ppm to at most 350 ppm. The authors suggest that this may be achieved by phasing out coal and by both capturing carbon dioxide and adopting agricultural and forestry practices that sequester carbon. The article highlights biochar as a tool to restore soil fertility and sequester carbon. To read the full article with references, go to: <http://www.bentham.org/open/toascj/openaccess2.htm> (Volume 2, 2008).

Wardle's response to Lehmann/Sohi comments on recent Science Article "*Fire-Derived Charcoal Causes Loss of Forest Humus*"

Responding to Lehmann/Sohi's comments on the original Science article on biochar "*Fire-Derived Charcoal Causes Loss of Forest Humus*" which stated that fire-derived charcoal can promote rapid loss of forest humus in boreal forests (Lehmann/Sohi comments can be found at: <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/sci:321/5894/1295c>), Wardle et al. submitted a response to the two main issues Lehmann/Sohi raised on the interpretation of results: #1 that the accelerated mass loss in the mesh bags containing a mixture of humus and charcoal could have been due to decomposition of some unspecified labile component in charcoal and #2 that the initial researchers did not quantify the proportion of carbon lost from the litter bags as carbon dioxide versus that in other forms. To read the technical comment in full, go to: <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/sci:321/5894/1295d>

Coming Up in Next Month's Newsletter

Updates from Poznan, Poland

News, Articles, and More

