

Background and Rationale

There is an urgent need for more research, both fundamental and applied, on organic farming practices in the tropics, and for a better dissemination of existing knowledge towards the practitioners in the field. Organic farming in the tropics presents a number of specific challenges that justify a dedicated conference. The aim of this conference is therefore to bring together scientists, policy makers and practitioners active in organic farming to present the latest research developments, and discuss how new and existing knowledge can be implemented in an efficient manner in order to foster further development of organic farming.

Why a conference in Indonesia?

Indonesia is a country where many crops are grown by default without external inputs, and hence where the step to true organic farming is often small. Moreover, there are numerous initiatives of organic farming in crops that are traditionally grown in a conventional manner (rice, vegetables). The Indonesian government is very supportive towards organic farming, including support for marketing and acquiring certification. Over the last 10 years, the Indonesian Soil Research Institute (ISRI) in Bogor, the Gajah Mada University in Yogyakarta and Ghent university (Belgium) have collaborated intensively in research on organic rice and vegetable farming in West and Central Java, and the organisation of this conference is a logical outcome of this collaboration.

Conference Programme

This conference will bring together researchers in organic agriculture in the tropics for discussing scientific developments in this intriguing domain. Attention will also be given to more practical issues such as marketing and certification, and we would very much like to **stimulate interaction between scientists and farmers/practitioners/NGOs/government bodies in order to finetune research priorities and identify major bottlenecks for further development of organic agriculture in the tropics**. To this end, we foresee the organization of a number of

practical workshops. Details on these will be announced in the near future on the conference website.

The conference will consist of a number of plenary oral presentations, and, depending on contributions received, a number of parallel oral presentations. Much attention will be given also to poster sessions, where we expect active involvement of both poster presenters and other participants.

Themes of the conference

The conference will be kept very broad and can deal in principle with all aspects of organic agriculture in the tropics. Sessions will be arranged around a number of themes, depending on the contributions received, and include:

Soil management and soil quality:

Nutrient supply, nutrient use efficiency, nutrient losses, soil quality, relation between soil quality and soil functions, restoration of soil quality upon conversion to organic farming, soil disease suppressiveness.

Plant protection:

Soil disease suppressiveness, prevention of pests and diseases, weed management, natural pesticides.

Organic livestock production:

Origin of livestock, livestock feed, living conditions, waste management, and health care.

Food quality and food safety:

Nutrient content, freshness, taste and appearance, production and processing method.

Economic analysis of organic farming:

Direct and/or modelling comparisons of economic returns between organic and conventional farms, social cost and benefits, macro-and microeconomic of organic farming, economic feasibility and risk.

Abstract and Paper Submission

We invite potential participants to submit abstracts on any aspect of organic agriculture in the tropics. Abstracts will be reviewed and authors will be notified about acceptance of the abstract. There will be oral presentations during both plenary and parallel sessions, and poster presentations during dedicated poster sessions. Upon abstract submission (by email to the conference secretariat), authors should select preference for:

- a) oral presentation;
- b) poster presentation.

Only one oral presentation is allowed per registered participant. However, there is no limitation on the number of posters presented per registered participant. Final decisions on whether a presentation is accepted as oral or poster will be made by the scientific committee on the basis of the abstracts submitted. We will also invite all authors of accepted abstract to submit a six page paper for the Conference proceedings. These conference proceedings will be under the form of a book with ISBN number, and will be distributed to all participants at the start of the conference.

Apart from publication in the Conference Proceedings, a selection of papers will be published in a Scopus indexed open-access journal. Another selection of papers will be published, after peer review, in the Springer journal "Organic Agriculture", the official journal of The International Society of Organic Agriculture Research (visit <http://link.springer.com/journal/13165> for more details). This will be free of charge. More information on the journals and on the formatting of papers for these journals will be made available in the coming months.

Deadline for abstract submission: 15 March 2017

Notification of abstract acceptance: within 2 weeks of abstract submission

Deadline for submission of 6-page paper for conference proceedings: 15 June 2017

Deadline for selected full paper submission: 24 August 2017

Registration fees and deadlines

We have made big efforts to keep registration fees low, in order to allow maximum participation from all countries. The registration fees, as specified below, include:

- conference bag with book of abstracts/symposium proceedings
- access to all plenary and poster sessions and parallel working groups
- welcome reception
- coffee breaks and lunches Monday-Wednesday 21-23 August
- conference dinner on a scenic location in Yogyakarta (with traditional Javanese dance performance)
- field trip on Thursday, including lunch and visit to Borobudur

The registration fees are, in EURO:

	Early bird fee (deadline 30/04/2017)	Full registration fee (deadline 15/06/2017)
Regular participant	140 EUR	190 EUR
Students(*)	120 EUR	150 EUR

Registration fees are, in IDR (Indonesian participants only):

	Early bird fee (deadline 30/04/2017)	Full registration fee (deadline 15/06/2017)
Regular participant	1800000 IDR	2300000 IDR
Students(*)	1500000 IDR	1800000 IDR

(*) Age less than 31 and official certificate/proof of studentship, not including conference dinner

Scientific Committee

Prof. Gerold Rahmann, Thünen Institute of Organic Farming, Director, Braunschweig, Germany - ISOFAR President
Prof. Clara Nicholls, University of California, Berkeley, US - SOCLA President
Prof. Michael Böhme, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Germany

Dr. Bram Moeskops, IFOAM-EU Group, Senior Scientific Coordinator TP Organics

Prof. Stefaan De Neve, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

Prof. Wenliang Wu, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China

Prof. Mette Olaf Nielsen, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

Prof. Reza Ardakani, Azad University, Karaj, Iran - Trent University, Peterborough, Canada

Prof. Fahmuddin Agus, Indonesian Soil Research Institute, Bogor, Indonesia

Prof. Suntoro, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia

Prof. Azwar Ma's, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Prof. Edhi Martono, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Prof. Didik Indradewa, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Prof. Irham, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Dr. Tomohide Sugino, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), Tsukuba, Japan

Dr. M. Nurcholis, Universitas Negeri Pembangunan Nasional Veteran, Indonesia



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OrgaTrop 2017

International Conference on Organic Agriculture in the Tropics:
State-of-the-Art, Challenges and Opportunities
Yogyakarta, August 20-24, 2017

<http://web.faperta.ugm.ac.id/orgatrop2017/>

International conference organised by:

- Gajah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- Ghent University (UGent), Belgium
- Indonesian Soil Research Institute (ISRI), Bogor, Indonesia
- Sebelas Maret University (UNS) Solo, Indonesia
- Universitas Pembangunan Nasional (UPN) Yogyakarta

In collaboration with:

ISOFAR: International Society of Organic Agriculture Research

Conference venue

Gajah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

