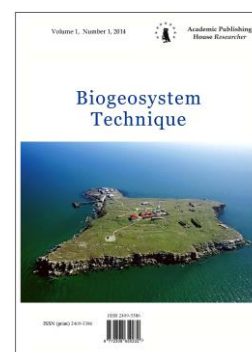


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Reviews of the Conferences on Agro-ecology

In retrospect. The 1st Conference on Organic Agriculture, of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and the All-Russian Research Institute of Phytopathology, in the Skolkovo Innovation Center, August 9–12, 2016

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Abstract

The conference agenda was the vast field of Fundamental and applied research in Bioorganic Agriculture in Russia, CIS and the EU. The conference was dedicated to the blessed memory of the highly honored Russian Academician Alexander Alexandrovich Zhuchenko (1935 – ca 2013). Scientific work of A.A. Zhuchenko on crop adaptability is of highest significance for Bioorganic Agriculture to ensure a decent life way in harmony with nature not damaging an environment. The Conference's focuses were: low external input agriculture, ecologically balanced and highly recycling agriculture, with pest prevention preferred over pesticide use. More than two hundred papers were presented on call of Conference successful organizer – Prof. Sulukhan K. Temirbekova – and collected in two tomes, of some 700 pages each – the huge interest to the issue. Very important protagonists of agro-ecology/organic agriculture were the participants of the Conference. The Resolution of conference assesses the contributions of all participants as valuable; recommend more attention & facilities for research and education in organic agriculture, the state regulation of IFOAM compliant standards for food production and processing, an annual or at least bi-annual international RAS conference on developments in organic agriculture, research and practice.

Keywords: Zhuchenko, recycling agriculture, pest prevention, environment, state regulation, quality of food.

The conference agenda was the vast field of Fundamental and applied research in Bioorganic Agriculture in Russia, CIS and the EU.

The conference was dedicated to the blessed memory of the highly honored Russian Academician Alexander Alexandrovich Zhuchenko (1935 – ca 2013).

A.A. Zhuchenko – the prominent high global level biologist, the biggest organizer, head of biological and agricultural science and production, presented bioorganic agriculture scientific work on the adaptive potential of the crop. The entire scientific Russia and CIS community noted his 80th anniversary in 2015. A.A. Zhuchenko was a multifaceted personality with a deep scientific intuition and insight, developed new and original trends in the world of science, foresaw the main areas of crop development (genetics, breeding, immunity, ecological agriculture). An outstanding scientist

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and patriot, he devoted his life to the service of science of the Soviet Union and Russia. And all this he was absolutely reasonable and sincere in dealing with Russian and foreign colleagues!



Fig. 1. Academician A.A. Zhuchenko (photo made in 2009)

Scientific work of A.A. Zhuchenko on crop adaptability is of highest significance for **Bioorganic Agriculture** to ensure a decent life way in harmony with nature not damaging an environment.

Based on his fair and sound research, he advocated organic agriculture as a way to respect the self-organizing potential of nature. An agriculture that produced enough good food for the people, and at the same time improved the soil ecosystem in favour of the generations to come.

As economic interests of certain industries were not served by a low external input agriculture, Zhuchenko's proposals and teachings were not supported for many decades.

Thus it was joyfully surprising that Prof. Sulukhan K. Temirbekova managed to organise a conference in the Russian Academy of Sciences, wherein low external input agriculture, ecologically balanced and highly recycling agriculture, with pest prevention preferred over pesticide use, was put in the focus of most of the 62 presented papers.

Also the more than two hundred papers collected in two tomes of some 700 pages each, presented on Conference successful organizer – Prof. Temirbekova's call for papers, clearly show the huge interest in the issue among Russian agro-researchers.

To name just a few of the important protagonists of agro-ecology / organic agriculture I refer to the following list of professors (these scientists are just some important persons):

- A. Goncharenko – Plant breeding
- B. Heijden – BD Plant breeding
- A. Semenov - Soil microbiology
- M. Sokolov – Soil health
- Y. Volkov – Biodynamics
- A. Nakaryakov – Biodynamics & Bio-Ekoniva
- A. Zuchenko Jr. – Organic agriculture
- V. Loshakov – Crop rotation
- V. Kasdapov – Leguminous forage crops
- O. Stognienko – Crop rotation and soil health
- A. Kislov – Phytopathology and crop rotations



Fig. 2. Conference participants. From left to right A. Nakaryakov (Kaluga region), prof. S.K. Temirbekova, prof J.D. Van Mansvelt (The Netherlands), Dr. B. Heijden (Germany)

Prof. Temirbekova made an important draft of the conference Resolution, wherein the participants of the conference recommend to pay more attention & facilities for research and education in organic agriculture, as well as state regulation of IFOAM compliant standards for production and processing.



Fig. 3. Elizabeth Beringer, EU expert on biodynamics, interpreter Elena Gurchenko, student of the Russian State Agrarian University named after K.A. Timiryazev (left)



Fig. 4. Dr. Janos Molnar, European Union Expert, Hungary

Also an annual or at least bi-annual international RAS conference on recent developments in organic agriculture, research and practice, was recommended in that Resolution.

All in all, I appreciate the great and successful efforts of prof. Temirbekova and the valuable contributions of all participants. Future generations will note the transition toward sustainable agriculture in Russia that was initiated by this unique Conference.

I do hope the Resolution will have the support of all participants and all those in charge.

Conference resolution

Having listened and discussed the reports of Russia, Belarus, Germany, Netherlands, Mauritius Island scientists, the participants of Conference expressed their appreciation of its organization, presentations, posters and expressed a deep gratitude to the organizing committee for the excellent organization of international conferences, and personal gratitude to the Chairman of the Organizing Committee Prof. S.K. Temirbekova for her ability and organizational skills in conducting the event.

Participants noted that the future of bioorganic agriculture food security – the quality of food and environment determines the quality of life on the Earth.

The conference participants decide:

1. Develop and promote a program of bioorganic agriculture on a global level.
2. Develop and implement a program to educate primary, secondary students on the basics and the importance of bioorganic agriculture.
3. Make proposals to the Federal Law Project 28.01.2015 "On organic production" and changes to the adopted Standards.
4. Develop and adopt a program of cooperation in the field of bioorganic (biodynamic) agriculture at the international level in the form of scientific and technical association to conduct studies including all branches of agriculture (soil science, breeding, plant protection, etc.).
5. Send a proposal to the relevant Ministries of the Russian Federation for opening the Departments of organic agriculture in Universities of Krasnodar and Moscow.
6. Foster the Agriculture graduates in development of bioorganic farming.

7. Disseminate the information about the Conference in social networks, media and other media.

8. Hold conferences on bioorganic farming on regular schedule once in a 1.5-2 year with the invitation of IFOAM experts, scientists and bioorganic government and non-government organizations of Russia, CIS and over the world.

My song for the earth – my mother

Let me sing you my song – for my mother
For my mother: this wonderful Earth
She will nourish us all and forever
If we cherish her so fertile soils

Let us farm the earth's soils to be fertile
Let us farm to improve all our soils
When we feed all the soils they will feed us
Healthy soils, healthy crops, healthy us.

Let's pay farmers a fair price for growing
All the food that we need – from good soils.
For good soils save out water and climate.
Let's make sure we don't let soils erode.

Be aware we're in charge as consumers
And as scientists of the whole food-chain.
Let us here vote for the fair politicians
From all regions of all of Russia.