The substantial socio-economic importance of Casuarinas (several members of the family Casuarinaceae) has ensured ongoing global interest in research and development of this group of nitrogen fixing trees. Plantings are invariably associated with agricultural systems and there are about 2 million hectares planted in the tropics and sub-tropics, offering stability to fragile sandy coastal ecosystems and offering services of protection, soil organic matter, poles, fuelwood and commercial wood fibre.

Following earlier successful international meetings in Canberra (1981), Cairo (1990) and Da Nang (1996), IUFRO Working Party 2.08.02, Improvement and Culture of Nitrogen-Fixing Trees, is pleased to announce the 4th International Casuarina Meeting to be held in Haikou, People’s Republic of China, 22 - 26 March 2010.

The objectives of the meeting are to update and collate current information and advances in the R & D of this interesting group of species, with particular reference to their impact on smallholder livelihoods, reflected in the draft working title for the conference of: Improving smallholder livelihoods through improved Casuarina productivity.

Outputs from the meeting will include a written proceedings and a rejuvenation of the small international network which support global R&D into the casuarinas.

The Research Institute of Tropical Forestry (RITF), Chinese Academy of Forestry, has agreed to act as host for the meeting.

Workshop Venue

The 4th International Casuarina Meeting will be held in Haikou, Hainan province. Hosting the meeting in Haikou, Hainan will give participants more time for field visits to casuarina planting areas.

Official invitation letter

Official invitation letters will be issued by the Chinese Academy of Forestry. Participants who need an invitation letter for Chinese visa application must provide the following information before December 20, 2009:

- Organization name and address
- Your name as shown on your passport
• Passport number, issue location, date of issue and date of expiry. Please make sure your passport must have at least six months valid prior to entry into China
You should also send the scanned passport information page (PDF or JPG file, maximum file size 3 mb) to Dr Zhong Chonglu, Secretariat of 4th International Casuarina Meeting by e-mail: zclritf@21cn.com or zclritf@gmail.com.

It must be understood that the official invitation letter does not represent a confirmation of financial assistance.

It will be more convenient to apply for a tourist visa if you travel with your personal passport. An official invitation is normally not required if you apply for a tourist visa in most countries.

If you need an invitation letter to apply for travel support from other sources, the letter can be issued by Dr Xu Daping, Director of the Research Institute of Tropical Forestry, and Chairman of the International Organizing Committee. Please send your request to the Workshop Secretariat.

Final Registration
Deadline for final registration is 31 October 2009. Please note we no longer accept registration with request for travel support.

Deadline for submission of full papers
Deadline for submission of full papers has been extended to 31 December 2009.

Guidelines for preparation of manuscript
• Please use Word to prepare your paper (preferably Word 2003).
• Please write your text in good English. Italics are to be used for expressions of Latin origin, for example, in vivo, et al. Use decimal points (not commas).
• Use double spacing, and wide (3.17 cm) margin. Do not use full justification (i.e. do not use a constant right-hand margin). Present each table and figure on separate pages at the end of the manuscript. Provide the following data on the title page:
  • Title: Concise and informative. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
  • Author names and affiliation: Present the authors’ affiliation address below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author’s name and in front of the appropriate address of each affiliation.
Corresponding author: Clearly indicate who is willing to handle correspondence. Provide telephone and fax numbers (with country and area code) in addition to the email address.

Abstract: A concise and factual abstract is required. Keep the abstract to 300 words maximum.

Subdivision of the article
Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2), 1.2, etc. Subdivision for most papers should consist of:
Introduction
Materials and methods
Results
Discussion
Conclusions
Acknowledgments
References

Examples of citations in the text
Single author: Jones, 2009
Two authors: Jones and Stevens, 2009
Three or more authors: Jones et al., 2009

Examples of references list
Reference to a journal publication:
Author(s). Year. Title. Journal name Volume: Page numbers.

Reference to a book:

Reference to an edited book:
Author(s). Year. Title. In: Authors (eds.), Name of book or proceedings. Publishers, location. Page numbers.

Tentative program
21 March 2010  Arrivial of participants and registration
22-24 March 2010  Workshop presentation
25-26 March 2010  Field visits, conclusion of the meeting
27 March 2010  Departure of participants
Meeting location and hotel room price

The Lihua Hotel (four stars), 158 Fengxia Road, Haikou City will be the venue for the meeting. The hotel is 15 km from the Meilan International Airport, and 10 km from downtown Haikou.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Rate (RMB)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard room with one or two single beds</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Standard Room with one or two single beds</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deluxe suite with separate sitting room and two single beds or one king size bed</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxury suite with separate sitting room and two single beds or one king size bed, and steam heating shower equipment</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The quoted rates are special discount for participants at this time, and may subject to change.

Travel Information

- There are limited numbers of international flights to Haikou - Meilan International Airport. However, there are many domestic flights connecting Haikou with major cities in China, especially Guangzhou. If you transfer in Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport, the domestic terminal is a short distance from the international terminal.


Banks/Currency exchange

Most major international airports (e.g. Shanghai and Guangzhou) have bank counters which offer foreign money exchange for major currencies (USD, Euro and Yen) and open time is from 9:00 to 21:00. There are also bank ATMs which accept Visa, MasterCard, Maestro, Plus, Cirrus, HSBC, Hang Seng Bank and Citibank.

The Lihua Hotel has an ATM which accepts Visa, MasterCard, Diners, American Express, JCB, Cirrus and Visa Electron. There is a limit of 2500 RMB per withdrawal, and total limit of 20,000 RMB per day.

Airport Reception (Meilan International Airport, Haikou)

Airport pick-up will be arranged for participants arriving Meilan International Airport on 21 March 2009 only. All delegates will be met on arrival and transferred to the hotel. Please provide your arrival flight information to the Workshop Secretariat. Public taxis are available from the airport to the hotel.
Participants and Conference fee
Delegates US$ 400 or 2800 RMB (Rinminbi)
Accompanying persons US$ 350 or 2450 RMB
Students US$300 or 2100 RMB

Notes: The registration fee covers one welcome dinner and all lunches during the workshop and post-workshop tour. Student participants please show your current student ID for discount registration fee to the workshop reception desk.

For further information please contact the Workshop Secretariat:
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