

Conference Goals

To strengthen the on-going research and to enhance sustainable production of lotus, water lily and aquatic plants,

Date and Venue

The conference will take place at Kasetsart University Chalerm Phrakiat Sakon Nakorn Province Campus (<http://www4.csc.ku.ac.th/>), Sakon Nakorn Province, Thailand, from October 20-22, 2010

Language

The conference will be conducted in English.

Topics Included

Breeding, Biotechnology, Production, Utilization, Marketing and Economics, Extension and Transfer of Technology, Poster Session, Exhibition and Field trip

Keynote Address

Plenary Session :

1. Overview of Lotus Growing in Thailand (Dr. Slermlarp Wasawat, Waterlily Lover Club, Thailand)
2. Overview of Flower Lotus production in China (Prof. Wang Quicho, President of the Lotus Branch of China Flower Association)
3. Lotus Growing and Utilization in the USA (IWGS representative, USA.)
4. Root Lotus growing and Utilization in China (Prof. Ke Weidong, Wuhan Vegetable Research Institute, China)
5. Seed Lotus Growing and Utilization in China (Prof. Xie Guangchang White Lotus Research Institute, China)
6. Biotechnological tools for Lotus Genetic Improvement (Prof. Dr. Huang Yinghua, Lead Scientist & Research Geneticist, USDA-ARS)

Poster Presentation

Poster must be 85 (W)x110 (H) cm2 in size.

Participants

The target number of participant is 300 researchers and executives from both public and private sectors from Thailand and abroad

Date & Programs

October 19, 2010

07.00-17.00 Departure Bangkok for Sakon Nakorn
13.00-18.00 Pre-registration

October 20, 2010

07.00-08.30 Registration
08.30-08.45 Opening address
08.45-10.15 Keynote speakers
- Overview of lotus growing in Thailand
- Overview of flower lotus production in China
10.15-10.30 Coffee break
10.30-12.00 Keynote speakers
- Lotus growing and utilization in USA
- Seed lotus growing and utilization in China
13.00-15.00 Paper presentations
15.00-15.15 Coffee break
15.15-17.00 Paper presentations
18.00-21.30 Welcome dinner

October 21, 2010

08.30-10.15 Keynote speakers
- Root lotus growing and utilization in China
- Trend in lotus biotechnology
10.15-10.30 Coffee break
10.30-12.00 Paper presentations
13.00-15.00 Paper presentation
15.00-15.15 Coffee break
15.15-17.00 Paper presentation
17.00-18.00 Committee meeting (evening session)
October 22, 2010
08.00-17.00 Field trip (Kasetsart University Chalerm Phrakiat Sakon Nakorn Province Campus)
18.00-22.00 Farewell dinner

Post- conference Program (October 23-24,2010):

1. Festivals

Wax castle procession Held in October to mark the end of Buddhist's Lent, the festival is an exciting showcase. On the night people will join hands in decorating wax castle at Ming Muang Field. Beautiful wax castle from different temples will join the procession, roaming the municipality to Wat Phra That Chermgchum Woravithara. Isan people believe that the wax will welcome Lord Buddha who comes back from the heaven to help all creatures on earth.

Boat race Held synchronically with the wax castle procession, the ancient boat race will be held at Phang Thong Pond or Tha Nang Arb Ban Tha Wat

Bang Fai Phaya Nak This extraordinary miracle always occurs at the beginning of the full moon night in the eleventh lunar month (End of Buddhist Lent). It can be seen along the Mekong River in the districts of Mueang, Phon Phisai, Pak Khat, Bung Kan, Tha Bo, Si Chiang Mai and Sangkhom. Bang Fai Phaya Nak is a term used for red and pinkish fire balls, which according to belief, belong to Phaya Nak or the great serpent of the underwater world. On the day marking the End of Buddhist Lent, a great number of people come to witness this phenomenon.

2. Sights

Nong Ham. At the depth between 3-8 metres, the lake facilitates agriculture, livestock farming and fishery of the people around it. There are more than 20 islets in the lake such as Ko Don Sawan, the biggest islet where deserted temple and ancient Buddha images are located.

Phu Wua Wildlife Sanctuary This sanctuary is around 150-300 m above sea level. Types of forest here are mostly Deciduous Dipterocarp Forest, Dry Evergreen Forest and Moist Evergreen Forest. Some parts of the area are sandstone mountain ridges, rocky grounds and grass fields.

Phu Phan Rajanivet Palace The palace is the royal residence of His Majesty the King, Her Majesty the Queen and royal family during the mission in Northeast Thailand.

Stone Arch (Thang Pi Pan) The stone arch is 1.5 metres wide and 8 metres long, bridges two groups of rock together. So, its beneath becomes a wonderful shelter.

Phu Thai Ethnic group at Ban None Hom They have immigrated from the left side of Mekong River to settle down here since over a century ago.

The three thousands years old cliff carving It is the mountain in the compound of meditation centre houses cliff carving featuring lifestyle of Thai people in the pre-historical period. The cliff carving was created by using solid tool to mark the cliff wall in the shapes of animals, people and farm.

Dinosaur graveyard Lots of fossil are found at mid of Phu Pha Lek Mountain and forest's edge of Phu Phan. Fossils of plant and petrified wood are also found.

Tha Sadet Market This is a source of products from Indochina and East Europe, including dried food, processed food, and utensils, such as electric appliances, clothes, watches, kitchenware, etc.

Thai - Lao Friendship Bridge It is a link over the Mekong River between Amphoe Mueang Nong Khai of Thailand and Tha Dua of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. It was built with cooperation from three countries: Australia, Laos, and Thailand.

Freshwater Fishery Village The villagers here have freshwater fishery as a profession. Freshwater species of fish raised in their farms are Pla Taphian, Pla Nai, Pla Nuan Chan, Pla Yisok Thet, Pla Klet Ngon, Pla Hua To, Pla Duk Thet, etc.

