First announcement and Call for papers

Improving Sustainability in Organic and Low Input Food Production Systems

3rd International Congress of the European Project Quality Low Input Food (QLIF)

University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

March 20 – 23, 2007

Registration


Registration for the QLIF Congress will also provide access to the 9th Scientific Conference on Organic Agriculture, entitled «Between tradition and globalisation» that is held in parallel with the QLIF congress.

Scientific Committee

Prof. Dr. Stefan Dabbert, University of Hohenheim
Prof. Dr. Carlo Leliev, University of Newcastle
Dr. Urs Niggli, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, FiBL

Organizing Committee

Thomas Alföldi, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL
Dr. Helga Willer, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL
Dr. Sabine Zikeli, University of Hohenheim

Congress Planning Dates at a Glance

July 15, 2006: Congress Information online at www.qlif.org/congress2007
September 1, 2006: Online registration
October 15, 2006: Deadline for the submission of papers
December 1, 2006: Notification of acceptance / necessary modifications
January 15, 2007: Submission of final paper
March 20 – 23, 2007: Congress «Improving Sustainability in Organic and Low Input Food Production Systems»

Congress Language

The congress language is English.

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www qlif org congress2007
Background

The Congress is the 3rd in a series organized as part of the EU funded Integrated Project (IP) Quality Low Input Food (QLIF). The IP aims to improve quality, ensure safety and reduce cost along the organic and low input food supply chains through research, dissemination and training activities.

Previous congresses have taken place in the UK (2005) and in Denmark (2006) (see IP website: www qlif org).

The congress will be organized in parallel with the 9th Scientific Conference on Organic Agriculture in the German speaking countries, entitled «Between tradition and globalizations», organized by the University of Hohenheim.

This conference will have sessions held in German and English. Detailed information is available at www.wissenschafestagung.de.

The 9th Scientific Conference will gather more than 600 scientists, advisors, farmers, processors, traders and officials from Germany, Austria, Switzerland and other countries. The dialogue between European research and regional actors is an important goal of the joint conference.

Thematic Scope

The 3rd QLIF congress «Improving Sustainability in Organic and Low Input Food Production Systems» will present key results from (a) the IP and (b) other ongoing R&D projects focusing on the following themes:

1. Consumer perceptions, expectations and attitudes about the quality, safety and sustainability of low input food supply chains.
2. Improving soil management practices; effect on soil physical, chemical and biological characteristics and long-term soil fertility.
3. Improving crop management practices; effect on nutritional, processing and sensory food qualities and environmental impact.
4. Improving livestock management practices; effect on nutritional, processing and sensory food qualities and environmental impact.
5. Improving food processing; effect on nutritional and sensory quality of organic and low input foods.
6. Improving quality assurance and supply chain organisation; effect on supply chain integrity, consumer confidence and food quality and safety.

Submission Procedure and Dates

Papers may be offered under all 6 themes. A 4-page paper consisting of an abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions, references should be submitted by the 15th of October 2006.

Submission of papers will be via the Organic Eprints archive and details on the submission process will be made available by the 31st of July 2006 at www.qlif.org/congress2007.

The offered papers will be reviewed and authors will be informed by the 1st of December on whether (a) papers have been accepted and/or (b) modifications are necessary.

Both oral and poster presentations are possible. Please indicate your preferences when submitting your paper. Please also note that the number of oral presentations is limited.

Congress Proceedings

The proceedings will include all papers accepted as either oral or poster presentation and will be available at the congress. Papers will also be made available in the Organic Eprints Archive (http://orgprints.org/view/projects/int_conf qlif2007.html).