



## **The 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH**

**October 18-23, 2015. Dubrovnik, Croatia**

<http://www.agroekologija.eu/9thpsilph/>

### **The Organizers:**

#### **International Steering Committee of PSILPH**

**Faculty of Agriculture in Osijek, University of Josip Juraj Strossmayer in Osijek (Host)**

#### **under the auspices of the**

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Croatia

Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection of the Republic of Croatia

#### **in collaboration with**

Croatian Soil Science Society

Croatian Agricultural Agency

invite you to:

### **The 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH**

October 18-23, 2015

Dubrovnik, Croatia

Importanne Resort



### International Steering Committee of PSILPH:

**Chairman:** Leon Kochian (USA) ([lvk1@cornell.edu](mailto:lvk1@cornell.edu))

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### Croatian Organizing Committee:

**Chairman:** Lončarić, Z., Faculty of Agriculture in Osijek ([zdenko.loncaric@pfos.hr](mailto:zdenko.loncaric@pfos.hr))

**Secretary:** Rastija, D., Faculty of Agriculture in Osijek ([domagoj.rastija@pfos.hr](mailto:domagoj.rastija@pfos.hr))



## Invitation

You are invited to participate in the 9th International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH as a delegate or participant with an oral communication, poster presentation or presentation from your institution/company/society.

## Background

Approximately 30 % of the world's total land area consists of acid soils, and it has been estimated that over 50 % of the world's potential arable lands are acidic. To discuss the problems of soil acidification, connect scientists and to disseminate research results, the First International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH (PSILPH) was successfully held in Canada in 1987, followed by subsequent PSILPH symposia in the USA (1990), Australia (1993), Brazil (1996), South Africa (2001), Japan (2004), China (2008) and India (2012). Now, for the first time, the PSILPH Symposium will be organized and held in Europe, in the beautiful Croatian city of Dubrovnik.

Excessive soil acidity as an agricultural limiting factor impacts crops production on numerous farms in Europe, including Croatia. About 830,000 ha (32 %) of the agricultural land in Croatia is consists of acid to highly acidic soils (2,590,718 ha in total). There are 3 clearly defined regions in Croatia - Pannonian, Mountain and Adriatic, and 79,5 % (660,617 ha) of all acid soils in Croatia are in the Pannonian region. Acid soils occupy 40% of Pannonian region, which is the most important agricultural region in Croatia

## Symposium Objectives

The 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Plant-Soil Interactions at Low pH will enhance exchange and dissemination of knowledge and experience, ideas and results and promote internationalization and friendships among researchers and professionals in all research fields associated with soil acidity effects on the environment, with a focus on both agricultural food crops as well as forest lands . The major theme of the first PSILPH symposium in Europe will be Interdisciplinary Approaches to Soil Acidity Effects on the Plant-Food Chain.



## Symposium Topics

1. Physical, chemical and biological properties of acid soils
2. Physiological and molecular mechanisms of plant adaptation to acid soils
3. Genetics and breeding of crops for acid soils
4. Aluminum toxicity, P deficiency, and other acid soil limitations with a focus on their amelioration and remediation
5. Sustainable utilization and management of agricultural and natural ecosystems on acid soils
6. Chemistry and management of acid – sulfate soils
7. Forestry and Agroforestry on Acid Soils
8. Soil Acidity Effects on the Food Chain (Food Quality, Nutrition and Human Health)

Papers not covered directly by the listed themes, and belonging to the PSILPH field will be allotted to one of the listed sections. It is possible a new Symposium Topic will be created based on the topics of submitted papers, in the case enough papers about the new topic are submitted. A poster section will be organized within each Symposium Topic.

## Date and Location

The symposium will be held from 18-23 October 2015 at the Importanne Resort in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

## Preliminary Schedule

Symposium preliminary schedule is as follows:

Day, date	Program
Sunday, 18 October 2015	Registration and Welcome Reception (by Dubrovnik Sun)
Monday, 19 October 2015	Opening Ceremony, Plenary lectures, Symposium Topic Sessions
Tuesday, 20 October 2015	Symposium Topic Sessions (Keynote presentations, short oral presentations & posters)
Wednesday, 21 October 2015	Mid-Symposium Tour (by Dubrovnik Sun)
Thursday, 22 October 2015	Symposium Topic Sessions (Keynote presentations, short oral presentations & posters)
Friday, 23 October 2015	Departure



### Symposium format

The symposium consists of scientific sessions spread over three days with a one day mid-symposium field tour. A number of invited speakers will present plenary lectures. A limited number of papers will be selected from among the contributed papers by the steering committee for keynote and short oral presentations. The remaining contributed papers will be presented as posters. Post-symposium tours will be organized (additional fee to be paid to DUBROVNIK SUN).

### Official language

The official language of the Symposium will be English.

### Proceedings

The research papers will be reviewed by experts according to the standards adopted in international journals. Those papers which are approved by the review committee will be printed and published in the symposium proceedings, and made available to all delegates during the symposium.

For all interested authors, the Faculty of Agriculture will publish original research and review papers in a special issue of the scientific journal, Poljoprivreda/Agriculture (indexed in databases CAB Abstracts, Agricola, Scopus, DOAJ). We recommend authors to prepare their papers according to the instructions at the following URL: (<http://www.pfos.hr/~poljo/?q=guidelines>).

### Registration

To participate in the PSILPH Symposium, participants need to fill out the Preliminary Registration form on the Symposium website ([www.agroekologija.eu/9thpsilph/](http://www.agroekologija.eu/9thpsilph/)) or send it electronically, as an attached file to either of the following e-mail addresses: [9thpsilph@gmail.com](mailto:9thpsilph@gmail.com) or [Zdenko.Loncaric@pfos.hr](mailto:Zdenko.Loncaric@pfos.hr) until June 1<sup>st</sup> 2015. Participants are asked to specify the Symposium topic they would like to present their research in or mark the Preliminary Registration form with the appropriate Symposium topic code, adding the surname of the participant and the word “registration” (For example: 01Johnes\_registration).



### **Instruction to authors - Preparation of two-page manuscript**

Two page manuscripts should include title, name, affiliation and address of all authors, e-mail address of the corresponding author, abstract, main text and list of references.

1. Type text using single-space in Times New Roman font; Title -14 point bold font; names of authors- 12 point bold font; Main text 10- point font; and list of references – 9 point font.
2. Name of presenter should be underlined, and name of corresponding author to be starred with an asterisk (\*).
3. Abstract should not exceed 100 words.
4. The main body can be prepared in one of two ways (original paper or mini-review paper). Authors can choose either of the two. For an original paper, the body of the paper should be divided into introduction, material and methods, and results and discussion sections, followed by references.
5. Figures and Tables may be included at appropriate locations in in the main text.
6. The cover page should be in the following format and sent along with the two page manuscript.
  - a. Title of the short paper.
  - b. Name (surname followed by first name), affiliation and address of all author(s) first to last author.
  - c. Name and e-mail of corresponding author.
  - d. Name, telephone, fax number and e-mail address of presenter.
7. Send two page manuscript along with the cover page to Prof. Dr. Zdenko Lončarić (9thPSILPH Croatian Organizing Committee) by email ([Zdenko.Loncaric@pfos.hr](mailto:Zdenko.Loncaric@pfos.hr)) before 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Send the same information by email to [9thpsilph@gmail.com](mailto:9thpsilph@gmail.com) simultaneously.

### **Instruction to authors - Preparing the manuscript for Poljoprivreda/Agriculture special issue**

The special issue of the scientific journal Poljoprivreda/Agriculture will publish the best original research and review papers prepared according to the instructions found at: (<http://www.pfos.hr/~poljo/?q=guidelines>). The International Steering Committee of the PSILPH strongly support and encourage symposium participants to prepare a manuscript for publication in the special issue of journal Poljoprivreda/Agriculture.



### Important dates

Preliminary registration (Title registration)	April 30, 2015
Full registration (Paper submission)	June 15, 2015
Notification of acceptance	July 30, 2015
Fee payment deadline	September 18, 2015

### Registration fees

Early registration (before September 10th):

Standard delegate:	350 EUR
Delegate from developing countries:	235 EUR
Student delegate:	175 EUR
CSSS member delegate:	1.750 HRK

Late registration (after September 11th):

Standard delegate :	400 EUR
Delegate from developing countries:	275 EUR
Student delegate :	200 EUR
CSSS member delegate :	2.000 HRK

Registration Fees cover the costs of preparation of all symposium materials, the scientific and professional expenses for article publication and presentation (Proceedings Book and special issue of the journal Poljoprivreda/Agriculture Osijek).

The welcome program, coffee breaks, mid conference field trip and closing banquet dinner for all symposium participants will be organized by the hotels and the Dubrovnik Sun Professional Conference Organizers. These events are included in the accommodation costs – accommodation reservation will be handled by the DUBROVNIK SUN (see below).

There will be sight-seeing tours for an additional fee.



### Payment method

The fees should be paid into the account:

**Benefit Customer: Faculty of Agriculture**

**Address: Kralja Petra Svačića 1d, HR – 31000 Osijek, Croatia**

**Bank name: Hypo Alpe Adria bank**

**IBAN CODE: HR17 2500 0091 1020 1947 0**

**Swift/BIC: HAABHR22**

**Ref. No. 755**

**With the note: 9 PSILPH – REGISTRATION FEE – (Name and Surname of the Participant)**

Payment slips should contain:

1. Name and Surname of the participant
2. Name of his/her institution/company (Institution/company that is paying registration fees for several participants should send list of their participants via e-mail to [Zdenko.Loncaric@pfos.hr](mailto:Zdenko.Loncaric@pfos.hr) or [9thpsilph@gmail.com](mailto:9thpsilph@gmail.com)).
3. Address of participant or institution
4. Vat number or TAX number (or OIB number if applicable).

### Accommodation & Transfer Services (Airport – Hotel – Airport)

The symposium will be held at the Importanne Resort in Dubrovnik, which is located on the Babin Kuk peninsula, which is a famous resort area of Dubrovnik. The accommodations are at the hotels, Ariston\*\*\*\*\*, Neptun\*\*\*\* or Tirena\*\*\*. Participants should make reservations for accommodation exclusively through the web site of the Dubrovnik Sun Agency. There will be half board (breakfast and dinner) or full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner) type of service and 1/2 (double room) or 1/1 (single room) accommodations.

For accommodation and transfer services please contact the DUBROVNIK SUN Professional Congress Organizer, who is in charge of technical Conference support. Hotel/meal accommodations & the Airport-Hotel transfer registration form can be found at the 9th PSILPH Conference web site and the Dubrovnik Sun web site: [www.dubrovniksun.hr](http://www.dubrovniksun.hr).

For more information, please contact Dubrovnik Sun at:

e-mail: [9.psilph@dubrovniksun.hr](mailto:9.psilph@dubrovniksun.hr)

phone: +385 20 436 363. The welcome program, coffee breaks, mid conference field trip and closing banquet dinner will be organized by hotels and Dubrovnik sun for all symposium participants and costs are included in accommodation prices given by DUBROVNIK SUN.





## Symposium announcements

This is the first circular with important instructions. For more information, please visit the symposium website at <http://www.agroekologija.eu/9thpsilph>

There are now or will be in the future the following downloads:

- General information
- Preliminary registration form
- Full registration form
- Two-page manuscript template
- First circular (announcement)
- Second circular (announcement)
- Final circular (announcement)
- Final schedule (program)

## About the Faculty of Agriculture in Osijek

Faculty of Agriculture in Osijek is the oldest and largest faculty at the University of Osijek, located in the heart of the Croatian agricultural region. Osijek is literally surrounded by acidic soils in the west and calcareous soils in the east, which offers scientists a variety of research opportunities, but requires many practical answers and solutions. Therefore, it would be our great honor and privilege to host the 9th PSILPH in Croatia. This important event will provide a tremendous opportunity for scientists from the whole region situated in Southeast Europe to share their knowledge, experiences and thoughts with the world's leading scientists. We look forward to a variety of ideas and visions that this meeting will bring to our part of the world, which will be of great benefit to our efforts to increase the efficiency of crop production on acid soils in Croatia.

## About Dubrovnik

Dubrovnik is a medieval city on the Croatian side of the Adriatic coastline and is a treasure-trove of cultural and historical monuments that were created throughout its thousand-year existence. In the past, it was a City-Republic, and alongside Venice was one of the most famous cultural-economic centers on the Mediterranean. In more recent times, it has become the center of modern cultural and tourist events: a city of summer festivals – an international parade of top musical and theatrical achievements, a city of museums and galleries. These values have turned Dubrovnik into a place that offers a rich



selection of experiences and excitement, but also a complete holiday in a quiet and calming, mild Mediterranean ambience and wonderful seaside landscapes.

There are many beautiful places in the world, however, the people of Dubrovnik claim their city to be the most beautiful. Under the mild Mediterranean climate, Dubrovnik is bathed in a sea of sun, blossoms and ripe fruits of the orange and lemon trees even in the winter months. There are over 250 sunny days per year, with an average annual temperature of is about 21°C. The swimming season in the sea begins in April, sometimes even earlier, and lasts to late October and later, while swimming in indoor hotel pools is available year round. Dubrovnik and its surrounding areas cover the southernmost region of the Republic of Croatia and its Dalmatian province.

The walls of Dubrovnik girdle a perfectly preserved complex of public and private, sacral and secular buildings representing all periods of the City's history, beginning with its founding in the 7th century. Since 1979 Dubrovnik is in the register of UNESCO as a protected World heritage. Particular mention should be made of the city's main street in the old historical center - Stradun, Rector's Palace, St. Blaise's Church, Cathedral, three large monasteries, Custom's Office and the City Hall. The Republic of Dubrovnik was the center of a separate political and territorial entity, and was proud of its culture, its achievements in commerce and especially of its freedom, preserved in the course of the stormy centuries.

### About Croatia

Despite the hype, Croatia's pleasures are more timeless than trendy. Along its 1778km coastline, a glistening sea winds around rocky coves, lapping at pine-fringed beaches. Istrian ports bustle with fishermen while children dive into the sparkling water. In Dalmatia, cities throb with nightlife amid ancient Roman ruins.

Yachts glide up the coast, movie stars discreetly arrange to buy one of Croatia's 1185 islands and no Mediterranean cruise is complete without a stop in Dubrovnik. The interior landscape is as beguiling, even though less visited. Soak in a thermal spa at Istarske Toplice in Istria. Hike through pristine forests watered by mountain streams in the west. Let the waterfalls of Plitvice moisten your face. And then there's the culture. The country that endured Roman, Venetian, Italian and Austro-Hungarian rule has a unique and slightly schizoid identity. You'll find a strong central European flavour in the baroque architecture of Zagreb, and Italian devotion to the good life percolates up from the coast, permeating Croatian food and style. During holidays and festivals the country's Slavic soul emerges, as colourfully costumed dancers whirl about to traditional folk melodies.



## Information

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**We thank all authors for their cooperation.**

## Location and Traffic Connections

### Plane (airport Dubrovnik):

<http://www.airport-dubrovnik.hr>

### Traffic directions:

Dubrovnik – Zagreb – Ljubljana – Villach – Salzburg – München	1136 km
Dubrovnik – Zadar – Rijeka – Trieste – Milano	1044 km
Dubrovnik – Zagreb – Graz – Wien	960 km
Dubrovnik – Bucharest	976 km
Dubrovnik – Zagreb – Budapest	947 km
Dubrovnik – Podgorica – Priština – Niš – Sofia	691 km
Dubrovnik – Split – Ljubljana	642 km
Dubrovnik – Podgorica – Skopje	497 km
Dubrovnik – Beograd	474 km
Dubrovnik – Podgorica – Priština	466 km
Dubrovnik – Podgorica – Tirana	353 km
Dubrovnik – Mostar – Sarajevo	281 km
Dubrovnik – Podgorica	143 km

