

# Tropentag 2020

## Call for papers

Can agroecological farming  
feed the world?

Farmers' and Academia's view

9-11 September 2020

Prague, Czech Republic

[www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de)



Organised by: Czech University of Life Sciences Prague and  
Council for Tropical and Subtropical Agricultural Research

## About

*Tropentag* is an international annual conference on research in tropical and subtropical agriculture and rural development. It is jointly organised by the universities of Berlin, Bonn, Goettingen, Hohenheim, Kassel, ZALF e.V. (all Germany), Ghent University (Belgium), Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic), BOKU Vienna (Austria), and the Council for Tropical and Subtropical Research (ATSAF e.V.)

*Tropentag* is interdisciplinary, science-based and development-oriented. It addresses issues of agriculture, agro-/forestry, fisheries, and overarching topics of natural resources management, environmental and economic sustainability, food security, and nutrition in the context of rural development and poverty alleviation worldwide. The conference brings together students, junior and senior scientists, development practitioners, and experts from international research and funding organisations.

*Tropentag 2020* is organised by the Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences at the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague. All MSc and PhD students, scientists, extension workers, decision makers and politicians interested and engaged in agricultural research and rural development are cordially invited to participate and actively contribute. We particularly encourage young scientists (MSc and PhD students and PostDocs) to present their work.

**We look forward to welcoming you in  
Prague in September 2020**

### Venue:

Czech University of Life Sciences  
Kamýcká 126, 165 21, Prague  
Czech Republic

## Conference theme

### “Can agroecological farming feed the world? Farmers’ and Academia’s view”

If current global trends continue, population growth and demands for richer and better-quality diets will require us to roughly double current crop production. However, current production practices threaten our planet through loss of habitat, wildlife extinction and modification of water cycling, just to name a few. Agriculture is among the greatest contributors to global warming, the thirstiest user of water supplies and the major polluter of groundwater.

The debate on global food production challenges has become polarized, among stakeholders, widening the gap between the advocates of industrial agriculture and global commerce, and the supporters of local food systems and organic farming. While the former think it possible to meet the high production demands and ecosystem health through conventional agriculture, the latter rather see the world's small farmers increasing yields by adopting techniques based on natural processes that maintain or improve soil health without synthetic inputs.

We will review recent research results addressing these challenges from various points of view with different approaches. Discussions in plenary and thematic sessions, guided poster tours, and workshops will provide participants with new ideas to enhance our understanding of the potential capacity of agroecology to maintain and restore soil health, conserve biodiversity, and adapt to climate change.

## CGIAR Feature Center-of-the-year

The Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice) will be our CGIAR feature centre. AfricaRice is the leading pan-African rice research organisation committed to improving livelihoods in Africa. It contributes to poverty alleviation and food security in Africa through research, development, and partnership activities aimed at increasing the productivity and profitability of the rice sector in ways that ensure the sustainability of the farming environment and as such fits well with the overarching topic of *Tropentag 2020*.

## Conference structure

The theme of *Tropentag 2020* will be introduced by invited international guest speakers and developed further by keynote speeches in parallel thematic sessions. The latter span the diversity of research related to challenges of agroecological farming on a biological, technical, social, economic, and political level, and ways to overcome these. Related aspects will be addressed by oral presentations and guided poster sessions.

The Apéro social evening on September 9 and the conference dinner on September 10 provide opportunities for networking, discussion and exchange among participants. Post-conference excursions to Prague city centre and other surrounding interesting sites will be offered.

## Preliminary programme

08.09.	pm	Pre-conference workshops
09.09.	am	Pre-conference workshops
	pm	Opening (13:00 h) keynote session, <i>fiat panis</i> session, Parallel thematic oral sessions
		Apéro social evening
10.09.	am	Poster sessions Parallel thematic oral sessions
	pm	Parallel thematic oral sessions Poster sessions
	pm	Conference dinner
11.09.	am	Poster sessions Plenary keynote session Closing (around 13:30h)

## Submission procedure

The conference language is English. Abstracts of original research containing 250-350 words must be submitted by May 03, 2020, using the online form at [www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de). Please ensure that submitted abstracts meet quality standards for content and language. A panel of referees will decide on acceptance of an abstract as a poster or an oral contribution. A programme committee will allocate

accepted contributions to the sessions. Acceptance of abstracts will be sent by June 01, 2020. Contributors must confirm their participation by June 15, 2020 and pay their conference fee before July 15, 2020. Poster contributions will be grouped into thematic clusters and addressed in guided poster sessions. All presented contributions will be contained in the online Book of Abstracts.

## Workshops

You may organise your own workshop, specifically tailored to your audience. You may wish to tackle a particular topic, offer capacity building or gather task forces for projects. The only condition is that your topic should be related to tropical agriculture in a wider sense. Workshops can be offered on Tuesday 08.09. (13:00 - 17:00), Wednesday 09.09. (09:00 - 12:00) and Friday 11.09. (14:00 - 18:00 h).

To offer a workshop, please apply and describe its topic and objective as well as expected participant number by using the template provided at: [www.tropentag.de/conference/workshop.php](http://www.tropentag.de/conference/workshop.php).

Please send your application to [info@tropentag.de](mailto:info@tropentag.de) not later than 03.05.2020. You will receive feedback on your application not later than 01.06.2020; in case of approval details such as room allocation and logistics will be individually discussed with the *Tropentag* management.

## Photo competition

The "Let's Plant" non-profit association organises in collaboration with Tropentag 2020 a photo competition on the theme "Visualise the restoration of degraded land through a holistic landscape management approach in the tropics or subtropics". This includes tree planting, forest and landscape rehabilitation, and of course people acting in and using such landscapes. Each submission (individual photo or photo story up to ten pictures) should be accompanied with a short text describing the project or idea behind. More information is available on our website

[www.tropentag.de/conference/photocompetition.php](http://www.tropentag.de/conference/photocompetition.php)

## Dates and deadlines

Submission of abstracts	03.05.2020
Submission of workshops	03.05.2020
Acceptance of abstracts	01.06.2020
Acceptance of workshops	01.06.2020
Reconfirmation of participation	15.06.2020
Payment of conference fees by contributors	15.07.2020

## Conference fees

	By July 15, 2020	Later
<b>Full participants</b>	125 €	175 €
<b>PhD candidates</b>	75 €	100 €
<b>ATSAF PhD members</b>	50 €	75 €
<b>Students</b>	15 €	25 €

Conference dinner: 20 €; reduced 10 € (students)

If you do not wish the printed version of book of abstracts the conference fee is reduced by 5 €.

After online registration, please transfer your conference fee to:

Name: DITSL Witzenhausen

Bank: Sparkasse Werra-Meissner

Swift: HELADEF1ESW

IBAN: DE68 5225 0030 0000 0651 85

Indicate **Your Tropentag ID** and **your name** on the fund transfer.

## Organisation and contacts

### Lead of organisation team:

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### Tropentag secretariat:

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### Local organisation office:

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For more information, please visit our regularly updated website: [www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de)