

WORKSHOP ON OMEGA NIC FARMING TECHNOLOGY

FRIEDEL Jürgen, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna

DAVAASAMBUU Undarmaa, Mongolian University of Life Sciences Ulaabnaatar

On 30 June 2017, both working groups hosted a full-day workshop entitled Organic Farming Technology in Agro-ecological School at MULS, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, followed by an excursion.

Training team

Members of the training team were specialists from the Mongolian University of Life Sciences, Ulaanbaatar (MULS), and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU). BOKU team members were Assoc.Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Juergen K. Friedel and Ms. Ph.D. Nyamdavaa Tsolmon, MULS team members were Ms. Assoc.Prof. Ph.D. Davaasambuu Undarmaa, Ms. Ph.D. Naidan Tserentogtokh and Ms. Assoc.Prof. Ph.D. Janlav Oyungerel.

Agenda

The purpose of this workshop was to introduce an organic farming practices and possible approaches for Mongolian participants.

Participants

That was open to any participants (researchers, policy representatives, trainers, local farmers, consumers, students etc.) interested in learning the fundamental principles and practices of organic farming. The workshop covered various bodies: BOKU, MULS, Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Mongolia, ADRA-Mongolia, World Vision and other NGOs. During the workshop 38 participants from various agricultural fields from all over the country were trained on good practices on organic farming technology.

Presentations

The workshop- training consisted of the follow four presentations:

1. Organic farming guidelines and plant nutrition
2. Plant biological control
3. Organic certification and standards
4. Organic vegetable farming technology

The keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Juergen K. Friedel. He presented organic farming principles and guidelines, and principles of plant nutrition in organic farming. Participants then asked some interested questions and shared stories of past, current and upcoming initiatives in organic and sustainable agricultural farming practices from their own. Discussion at the workshop identified gap areas for organic technologies in agriculture.

Outcomes of the workshop

The participants agreed on the following recommendations for their future work:

- Priority to sustain the long-term, biologically based soil fertility on farm fields.
- To enhance the quality of agricultural products by organic production.
- To apply biological plant protection management in cereal and vegetable farming.
- Transition step by step from conventional to organic farming.
- To identify and test legume species and cultivars adapted to Mongolian climate conditions.

All participants seemed to be inspired by this.

Excursion

From 1 to 2 July 2017, MULS team members organized an excursion to a MULS experimental farm and a fertilizer production facility in the Central Agricultural Area of Mongolia, Unjin Bornuur sum, Tov province.

Visit of MULS team member, Ms. Ph.D. Naidan Tserentogtokh, to BOKU

Ms. Ph.D. Naidan Tserentogtokh visited BOKU from 18 to 31 July 2017. On 19 July, Ms. Ph.D. Naidan Tserentogtokh, Dr. Juergen K. Friedel and Ms. Ph.D. Tsolmon Nyamdavaa made an excursion to the organically managed fields of the BOKU experimental station in Groß-Enzersdorf / Raasdorf.

Acknowledgment

The training team members are grateful to OeAD for funding this workshop within the frame of the Eurasia Pacific Uninet programme.