



Australian Society of Soil Science Inc

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February 2010

URGENT DATE February 25 QLD Branch OGM with guest speaker and contributions for Profile. See items below for further information.

19th WCSS in Brisbane – Book now for discounted early bird registration



Every delegate who registers for the WCSS prior to April 30 will go in the draw to win 5 nights accommodation at The Oaks Festival Towers and a full day 4x4 'Eco-Tour' on Queensland's famous Stradbroke Island. Visit <http://www.19wcss.org.au/delegate-registration.php> for competition conditions, details and registration. Consolation prize for those that don't win is that they can enjoy the discounted early bird registration! An

excellent win-win outcome so book now.

IUSS publications continue to carry a wealth of information.

If you were busy around Christmas you may have missed the Bulletin http://www.iuss.org/Bulletins/IUSS_Bulletin_115_hires.pdf and the IUSS Alert 58 for February 2010 is now available. Visit <http://www.iuss.org/>

Subscription dues can be paid online

Members can now go online to the Society website home page, www.asssi.asn.au to renew their membership and use the link on the home page. If you require AJSR or have CPSS accreditation please make your 2010 payment promptly. This year voluntary donations are being collected via the subscriptions form to enhance the capacity of soil science laboratories in East Timor. Members can elect to donate \$5, \$10 or \$20.

Position: Soil / Landform Rehabilitation Scientist

Outback Ecology is an established environmental consultancy based in Perth, servicing the mining and resources industry in areas of aquatic and subterranean ecology, flora and fauna, mine approvals, mine closure, mine support, rehabilitation monitoring, soils, landform and tailings rehabilitation. We are looking for an enthusiastic person with a background in soil science to join the Soils, Landforms and Tailings group. Duties would include field work, laboratory analyses and report preparation on a diverse range of projects including baseline soil surveys, mine waste characterisation, tailings characterisation, rehabilitation investigations, design of waste landforms, laboratory and field based experimentation. Experience in a consulting role and / or the mining industry is not a prerequisite for the position, but would be seen as an advantage. Remuneration will be commensurate to skills and experience. For further information contact: Matt Braimbridge Group Leader – Soils, Landforms and Tailings (08) 9388 8799 matt.braimbridge@outbackecology.com

Qld Branch 239th OGM at Hartley-Teakle Building at UQ, February 25 Reconstructing the root zone in mined land

Dinner at 6pm and the meeting from 7pm. The guest speaker is Longbin Huang (Senior Research Fellow - Plant Nutrition and Rhizosphere Remediation at CMLR/UQ) talking on "Reconstructing the root zone in mined land - the importance of looking beyond the root zone".

Soil Health Workshop in Brisbane

A joint DERM (Qld Dept of Environment and Resource Management) and ASSSI Qld Branch workshop on the topic of Soil Health, to be held at UQ on Tuesday 9th March (8:30am - 5pm). Presentations include *Ecosystem functions and soil properties *Agricultural cropping systems * Soil carbon * Laboratory analysis * National perspectives of soil health *Soil biology *Soil health projects * Landscape systems

and trends. Cost is \$100 for ASSSI members, \$160 for non-members and \$50 for students. Further information contact Kristie Williams (Ph: 4697 1615, E-mail: steve_kristie@bigpond.com) or register using the [QLD Workshop Registration Link](#)

Social networking sites and soil science.

Members who use facebook may be interested to know that the Soil Science Society of America has a facebook 'fan' site <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Soil-Science-Society-of-America/100139413226?ref=mf> I have also set up a 'Soil Science in Australia' facebook site, which you can find at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=288612608931>
A place to post news, events, photographs and have discussions. Richard MacEwan CPSS-3.

Nominations called for the Crawford Fund Fellowship

The Crawford Fund Fellowship has been set up to provide further training for an agricultural scientist whose work has shown potential. This prestigious Award provides an opportunity for the successful candidate to spend a period of focussed study and training in Australia, with resulting benefits to the Awardee as well as to their country's agriculture and to Australia. Candidates should be below the age of 35 and from a selected group of developing countries. The training will take place at an Australian institution and will emphasise the application of knowledge to increase agricultural production in the Fellow's home country. The closing date for nominations is 12 April 2010. Nomination Forms and the Terms and Conditions are on the website www.crawfordfund.org If you have any queries about the Fellowship, please contact Marchien van Oostende at The Crawford Fund, moostende@crawfordfund.org

SA Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

The 19th World Congress of Soil Science will be held in Brisbane, Australia, 1-6 August 2010. The Australian Society of Soil Science (SA Branch) is making available some financial support for ASSSI student members to attend this important congress. Support of \$750/student, sufficient to cover conference registration, is available on a competitive basis. Contact Murray Unkovich for an application form (murray.unkovich@adelaide.edu.au) which must be submitted no later than Thursday March 18.

QLD Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

Up to 5 x \$1000 grants will be available to assist with conference fees and related transport and accommodation costs. Applicants must be less than 30 years of age as at May 1 2010 and either a full-time student studying soil-related subjects at a university in Qld, or be working in a soils-related area. Preference given to ASSSI members and those that have a paper or poster accepted at the conference (but any young soil scientist can apply). Application form need to be submitted by March 31. Successful applicants will be notified by April 20. For more information and an application form contact Kim Marchiori (3320 3728, or Kim.Marchiori@harmonyseasiacom), ASSSI Qld Branch Secretary.

WA Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

Financial support up to \$1500 per student will be available to assist with conference fees and related transport and accommodation costs. Applicants must be student members of the WA branch with a minimum of 12 months membership and have a paper or poster accepted at the conference. Application forms are available from WA Branch Secretary Louise Barton CPSS-3 (Louise.Barton@uwa.edu.au) and must be lodged by March 1 2010.

NSW Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

Financial support available for student members of the NSW Branch. For further details contact Jane Aiken CPSS-2 for the NSW WCSS Student Support application form via jane.aiken@bbsaa.com.au or 0407 853 635.

VIC Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

Financial support available for student members of the Victoria Branch. For further details contact Nicole Mathers CPSS-2 (Nicole.Mathers@dpi.vic.gov.au) or Damien Adcock CPSS-3 (damienadcock@nmit.vic.edu.au) for further information and the application form.

TAS Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

Financial support available for student members of the Tasmanian Branch. For further details contact Richard Doyle CPSS-3 (Richard.Doyle@utas.edu.au) for further information and the application form.

RIV Branch WCSS young soil scientist sponsorship opportunity

Financial support available for student members of the Riverina Branch. For further details contact Richard Early (rearly@csu.edu.au)

2011 ASSSI calendar

With only 2 photos received so far, ASSSI's 2011 calendar options are looking somewhat threadbare at the moment. Deadline is March 31, so I am looking forward to being inundated with entries in the next few weeks. Make sure your photos are a minimum 1.5MB, higher is better for print production. Email your images (max 3 per member) to me; also email me if you have any queries.

Rebecca Lines-Kelly ASSSI calendar coordinator rebecca.lines-kelly@industry.nsw.gov.au

Reminder that the closing date for 2010 ASSSI Awards is May 31

Nominations are being sought for the J A Prescott Medal of Soil Science, the J K Taylor OBE Gold Medal in Soil Science, the Australian Society of Soil Science Publication Medal, the C G Stephens PhD Award in Soil Science and the L J H Teakle Award. Nominations should be emailed to the ASSSI Federal Secretary, Dr Gemma Heemskerk, gemma.heemskerk@dpi.vic.gov.au with the federal office as a cc, office@asssi.asn.au. Closing date for award nominations is May 31. Award conditions and nomination forms can be found on the ASSSI Benefits and Awards page under the Society Information tab (<http://www.asssi.asn.au/general/awards.php>).

cpss.com.au now online

A new web site for the Society's accreditation program, Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) is now online. Members can access the application forms and guiding documents from www.cpss.com.au and assistance is available with CPSS application forms from the federal office. **To access the Members only section of the CPSS web site, the username and password are identical to the ASSSI web site; asssi is the username and horizon is the password.**

CPSS diaries are now due

The 2010 CPSS diary is now due and can be downloaded from the CPSS downloads page members section (enter the username asssi and the password horizon). Completed diaries can be emailed to the office@asssi.asn.au

New phone number for the ASSSI federal office

Telephone 03 5635 2370. Fax 03 5635 2139.

Postal, email and web addresses have not changed.

Profile 160, March – Content needed by February 25

Profile editor, Tina Dalby, has started working on the next edition of *Profile* but still needs more content. The final date for contributions has been extended to February 25. Please send Tina your news, articles, updates about people and events, and photos of pits, profiles, plots or other soil related subjects. The pits featured in the last edition were a hit. As all content received for *Profile* is reformatted, the preferred format for your contribution is simple text within an email. **Please avoid sending Word documents.** Photos must be sent as a separate JPG file and include a caption and the photographer's name in your email. If you have something to contribute, please send this within the body of an email or attach an RTF or PDF file. Just click on the link for to send your contribution directly to the editor: editor@asssi.asn.au

Soil Core Sampling Rig For Sale

It comes with everything needed to get going (except the vehicle). There is 2 x chrome moly tubes, persuader arm, tube cleaning brush, push rod to get sample out of tubes, silicon oil, various other parts. Runs on a Honda unleaded motor and is a hydraulic push ram. Goes down to approx 1.8m, but with an adapter and extension it would probably be able to go further. We are asking \$9000. If you need more details just email me and I will do my best to answer any questions. Jan Griffiths

jangriffiths@optusnet.com.au

Soil scientist to landscape artist

A member has emailed the office with news of Phil Ryan, a former forest soil scientist who worked mainly with CSIRO in Canberra. After 25 years in soil science, Phil decided to have a change of direction and is

now working full time as a landscape artist. For those that know Phil and/or are interested in art you can see examples of his work via the following link: <http://www.myopiclandscapes.com.au/gallerylatest.htm>

Soils related short courses. Remember that many courses are suitable as a CPSS ongoing professional development activity and can be included on the OPD diary.

Soil Health Workshop

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Erosion and Sediment Control Workshops Caloundra QLD 8-11 March 2010

Speakers include Andrew Macleod CPSS-2, Rick Morse (former CPSS Board member) and Michael Frankcombe. Further information and registration from Zoe Slater, Centre for Environmental Training 02 4954 4997

On-site Wastewater Management Training Course Mittagong NSW 15-17 March 2010

Speakers include Robert Patterson CPSS-3, Phillip Geary and Joe Whitehead. Further information and registration from Zoe Slater, Centre for Environmental Training 02 4954 4997

NSW Branch Regional Forum March 18

The NSW Branch are continuing the forum series from 2009 to encourage members to discuss what has been happening in soil science for the past five years and what is planned for the next five years. Two-page abstracts are required by February 26; contact David Gouge, NSW Branch Secretary via nsw@asssi.asn.au for the forum flyer or the abstract template. The forum will be held at the University of New England's Agronomy and Soil Sciences Building on March 18 with bookings via the ASSSI web site Calendar of Events page. Students are encouraged to attend. Contact Chris Guppy, NSW Branch regional representative for further information via cguppy@une.edu.au.

Carbon Footprinting Workshop

8-9 April 2010 at The University of New South Wales. If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Karwan, pkarwan@unsw.edu.au (02 9385 5017).

AgroEnviron2010 Mexico

The VII International Symposium on Environmental Sustainability of Agricultural Management Systems in an Ever Changing World has emailed the second announcement and call for Abstracts. The Symposium will be held in Cancun Mexico and you can contact Abel Ibanez for further information aibanezster@gmail.com