

Note on the 14th International Symposium on Buckwheat at North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, India from Sept. 3 to 6, 2019.

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The Department of Botany, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, India in collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), India, and DBT-Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD), India organized the 14th International Symposium on Buckwheat at North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong from Sept. 3 to 6, 2019 at North Eastern Hill University, Shillong. The Symposium was organized under the aegis of International Buckwheat Research Association on the theme "DIVERSIFYING FOOD SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY". Prof. S. K. Srivastava, Vice Chancellor, North-Eastern Hill University was the Chief Patron of the Organizing

Committee. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture Govt. of India and Director General, Indian Council for Agricultural Research, Govt. of India was the Chairman of the International Scientific Advisory Committee of the Symposium. Prof. Nikhil Chrungoo of NEHU was the Organizing Secretary of the Symposium. Dr. J.C. Rana of Bioversity International and Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Wani of University of Kashmir, Srinagar, India were the Joint Secretaries of the Symposium. Sh. Tathagata Roy, Hon'ble Governor of the Indian province of Meghalaya, graced the Inaugural function of the Symposium as the Chief guest and inaugurated the symposium.



Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture Govt. of India and DG, ICAR, New Delhi was the Guest of Honour in the inaugural function. Prof. S. K. Srivastava, Vice Chancellor, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong spoke about importance of Buckwheat as a food crop and also its importance in culture. Dr. T. Mohapatra spoke on the importance of underutilized crops such as Buckwheat in mitigating nutritional insecurity of people. Sh. Tathagata Roy, the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya spoke on the importance of buckwheat as a food crop and the need to promote its utilization by masses. Prof. O. Ohnishi, Emeritus Professor, Kyoto University, Japan was conferred "Life time achievement award" for his contribution towards buckwheat research. Sh. Tathagata Roy, the Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya presented the award to Prof. Ohnishi. Prof. Dr. Meiliang

Zhou, of Chinese Academy of Agricultural sciences, Beijing, Dr. Manoj Prasad of NIPGR, New Delhi and Dr. J. C. Rana of Bioversity International, New Delhi were conferred Golden Peacock Awards during the Inaugural function of the Symposium. Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture Govt. of India and DG, ICAR, New Delhi presented the awards to the recipients. The organizing committee of the Symposium also included Professors and other scientists from NEHU and elsewhere in India, Research fellows of School of Life Sciences of NEHU and Graduate students of the Department of Botany, NEHU. Prof. Nikhil Chrungoo of NEHU was elected by IBRA Assembly as Chairman of IBRA for the period of the next three years. Poland was by IBRA Assembly decided to be the country for organizing the next 15th International Symposium on Buckwheat in 2022.