

BULLETIN

OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
OF SOIL SCIENCE

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BULLETIN

DE L'ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE
DE LA SCIENCE DU SOL

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MITTEILUNGEN

DER INTERNATIONALEN BODENKUNDLICHEN
GESELLSCHAFT

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DA LA SCIENCE DU SOL
INTERNATIONALE BODENKUNDLICHE GESELLSCHAFT

Office/Bureau: c/o Royal Tropical Institute, 63 Mauritskade, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

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No. 12

1958

NEWS OF THE COMMISSIONS

Commissions II and IV

Meeting in Hamburg, August 25th—30th, 1958

For technical reasons the dispatch of the invitations to the Hamburg meeting has been seriously delayed. It has therefore been decided not to hold on to the original final date of application (February 1st, 1958). Application has now been removed to a later date and participants, notably from Australia, Asia and the U.S.A. are urgently requested to send in their application forms without further delay.

Commission III

The international questionnaire on soil microbiological technics, open to all soil biologists, is now under its way. Applications should be addressed to Dr J. Pochon, Institut Pasteur, Paris XV. The Committee on Soil Zoology, which has been established as a result of the discussions held at the occasion of the Paris Congress, develops an admirable activity.

Commission VI

The conference on supplemental irrigation will be held in Denmark (Copenhagen) 30th June to 4th July 1958. (See Bulletin No. 11 page 4). There will be three days for lectures and discussions and two days for excursion. The latest day of enrolment was April 1st, but people who may be interested in taking part in the conference are asked to contact the secretariate (Prof. Dr H. C. Aslyng, 26, Rolighedsvej, Copenhagen V, Denmark) as soon as possible.

**Joint Meeting Commissions IV and V
New Zealand 1962**

Some preliminary planning has been done for the Joint Meeting of Commissions IV and V it is hoped to hold in New Zealand in 1962. A strong Organising Committee has been appointed and it has held its first meeting.

It is proposed that the Conference be held in mid-November 1962, at Massey Agricultural College, Palmerston North. Papers will be invited and there will be plenty of time allowed for reading and discussing them. The Programme Committee, under Mr N. H. Taylor, aims to direct all activities of the Conference — programme, tours, exhibits — towards a closer understanding of the *relations between* soil fertility and soil classification and genetics. Consideration will be given particularly to the effect of soil properties and soil processes on fertility and its evaluation, and to the ways by which soil classification and genetics can be used to give the

most effective use of information on fertility. It is hoped that an intensive study of these fundamental issues will lead to a more effective practical application of *soil survey and soil fertility data*.

The tours will give members an opportunity of seeing the very wide range of soils found in New Zealand, the way they are used in agriculture and forestry, and how their classification into genetic groups has worked in practice. The aim of the Tours Committee will be to illustrate in the field the ideas raised in the Conference meetings and give members plenty of time to discuss them further and work out their full implications.

Several other Committees have also had preliminary meetings and are beginning to work out their programmes. The enthusiasm and careful thought being put into this early work, and the fundamental importance of the subjects that it is planned to discuss, indicate that the 1962 Conference may well be an outstanding one in the history of the I.S.S.S.

NOUVELLES DES COMMISSIONS

Commissions II et IV

Réunion à Hamburg, 25—30 août, 1958

A cause des raisons techniques l'envoi des invitations pour la réunion à Hamburg a souffert un délai considérable. Pour cette raison il fut décidé de ne pas adhérer à la date d'inscription stipulée originellement (le 1er février 1958) mais de prolonger le terme d'inscription. Par conséquent les participants, surtout de l'Australie, l'Asie et des Etats Unis sont priés de renvoyer leurs formes d'inscription au plus bref délai.

Commission III

L'enquête internationale sur les techniques en Microbiologie de Sol, ouverte auprès de tous les biologistes, est en cours. Le programme peut en être demandé à Mr Pochon, Institut Pasteur, Paris XVème. La Commission de Zoologie, dont la création fut discutée lors du Congrès de Paris, manifeste une grande activité.

Commission VI

La conférence sur l'irrigation supplémentaire aura lieu au Danemark (Copenhague) du 30 juin au 4 juillet 1958. (Voir Bulletin No. 11 page 4). Trois jours seront destinés aux conférences et aux discussions et deux jours aux excursions. La date de clôture de l'inscription était le 1er avril, mais ceux qui veulent encore participer aux conférences sont priés de prendre contact le plus tôt possible avec le secretariat. (Prof. Dr H. C. Aslyng, 26, Rolighedsvej, Copenhague V, Danemark).

Réunion mixte des Commissions IV et V Nouvelle-Zélande 1962.

Des délibérations préliminaires relativement à la réunion mixte des Commissions IV et V qui sera organisée dans la Nouvelle Zélande en 1962 ont eu lieu. Un Comité d'Organisation compétent fut institué et sa première réunion fut tenue.

Il est proposé que la conférence se tiendra en novembre 1962 au Massey Agricultural College, Palmerston North. Des communications seront acceptées et il sera alloué assez de temps pour la présentation et discussion de ces contributions.

Le Comité de Programme, sous la présidence de Monsieur N. H. Taylor se propose de prendre à tache la concentration de toutes les activités de la Conférence — programme, excursions et expositions — sur une meilleure compréhension *des relations entre* la fertilité du sol, sa classification et sa genèse. L'attention sera surtout concentrée sur l'influence des propriétés du sol et des processus pédologiques sur la fertilité et son évaluation, bien que sur la façon selon laquelle la classification et la genèse puissent donner des renseignements les plus utiles relativement aux problèmes de fertilité. Il est espéré que l'étude profonde de ces aspects fondamentaux amène à une application pratique plus effective des résultats de recherches pédologiques dans le terrain, comme des données sur la fertilité acquises dans le laboratoire. Des excursions donneront l'opportunité aux participants d'étudier une grande variété des sols de la Nouvelle Zélande, de voir leur mise en valeur pour l'agriculture et la silviculture et d'observer la valeur pratique de leur classification en groupes génétiques. Le Comité d'Excursions se propose pour but l'illustration dans le terrain des idées considérées lors de la conférence. Il y aura toute opportunité pour une discussion détaillée sur tous les problèmes théorétiques bien que pratiques. Un nombre d'autres Comités a également entrepris des travaux préliminaires.

L'enthousiasme et les considérations réfléchies aussi que l'importance considérable des sujets à inclure dans le programme, indiquent que la conférence 1962 pourra bien se réaliser comme une manifestation de premier rang dans l'histoire de la A.I.S.S.

NEUES DER KOMMISSIONEN

Kommissionen II und IV

Tagung in Hamburg vom 25. — 30.8.1958

Die Verschiebung der Einladungen zur Hamburger Tagung hat sich aus technischen Gründen erheblich verzögert, sodass in vielen Fällen der Anmeldetermin (1.2.1958) nicht eingehalten werden konnte. Wir sind daher gezwungen, den Anmeldetermin zu verlängern, bitten aber besonders die Teilnehmer aus Amerika, Asien und Australien, ihre Anmeldungen möglichst bald nach Erhalt der Tagungsankündigung abzuschicken.

Kommission III

Der internationale Fragebogen über bodenmikrobiologischen Arbeitsmethoden, offen für alle Bodenbiologen, ist unterwegs. Anfragen dürften Herrn Dr. J. Pochon, Institut Pasteur, Paris XV, zugesandt werden. Das Komitee für Bodenzologie, deren Organisation nach dem Gedankenaustausch gelegentlich des Pariser Kongresses stattgefunden hat, entfaltet eine bewundernswürdige Aktivität.

Kommission VI

Die Konferenz über Beregnung wird stattfinden in Dänemark (Kopenhagen) vom 30. Juni bis einschl. 4. Juli 1958. (Sehe Bulletin Nr. 11 Seite 4). An den ersten drei Tagen gibt es Vorträge und Diskussionen und die letzten zwei Tage sind reserviert für einen Ausflug. Der letzte Einschreibetag war am 1. April 1958, aber diejenige, die noch an der Konferenz teilnehmen wollen werden gebeten so bald wie möglich in Verbindung zu treten mit dem Sekretariat. (Prof. Dr. H. C. Aslyng, Rolighedsvej 26, Kopenhagen V, Dänemark).

Vereinigte Tagung der Kommissionen IV und V Neu-Seeland 1962.

Für die Vereinigte Tagung der Kommissionen IV und V, welche man hofft im Jahre 1962 in Neu-Seeland ab zu halten, sind schon einige vorläufige Massnahmen getroffen. Es wurde ein Vertrauen weckendes Organisations-Komitee ernannt und dieses kam schon in erster Sitzung zusammen.

Vorgeschlagen wurde, die Konferenz Mitte Nov. 1962 im Massey Agricultural College zu Palmerston North ab zu halten. Aufrufe, schriftliche Beiträge ein zu senden werden ausgehen und es wird auf genügend Zeit gerechnet, dieselben zu lesen und zu besprechen. Das Programm-Komitee unter Leitung von Mr. N. H. Taylor, bemüht sich alle Aktivitäten der Konferenz — also auch die Ausflüge und event. Ausstellungen — zu konzentrieren auf die gegenseitigen Verhältnisse zwischen der Bodenfruchtbarkeit einerseits und die Bodengenese und -Klassifikation andererseits. Besondere Aufmerksamkeit soll dem Effekt von gewissen Bodeneigenschaften und Bodenprozessen auf Fruchtbarkeit und dessen Bewerung gegeben werden, sowie auch den möglichen Wegen wie die Bodenklassifikation und -Genetik benutzt werden können um die beste Auskunft, die Fruchtbarkeit betreffend, zu erlangen. Man hofft, dass ein intensives Studium dieser fundamentalen Fragen zu einer erfolgreicherer Anwendung der Resultate von Bodenkartierungen und Feldversuchsdaten führen werde.

Die Ausflüge werden den Mitgliedern die Gelegenheit bieten, die sehr reichhaltige Reihe von Neu-Seeland-Böden zu besichtigen, sowie auch die Weise wie sie in Land- und Waldwirtschaft benutzt werden. Dabei wird man hervortreten lassen, wie sich die Klassifikation in genetischen Gruppen in der Praxis auswirkt. Das Ausflugskomitee wird sich bestreben, die Gedanken während der Konferenz ans Licht getreten, im Felde an Beispielen zu illustrieren und den Mitgliedern reichlich Zeit zu geben zu intensivem Gedankenaustausch und Ausarbeitung ihrer Schlussfolgerungen.

Verschiedene andere Komitees kamen in gleicher Weise zusammen und haben nun begonnen ihre Programme näher zu bearbeiten. Der Enthusiasmus und die ernsthaftige Vorbereitung, nebst dem fundamentalen Interesse und Bedeutung der Themata die man sich zur Diskussion vorgenommen hat, mögen gewiss als Anweisungen gesehen werden, dass die Konferenz 1962 in der Geschichte des Internationalen Bodenkundlichen Vereins eine hervorragende Stellung einnehmen wird.

**NEWS OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES - NOUVELLES DES SOCIETES
NATIONALES - NEUES DER GESELLSCHAFTEN IN EINZELNEN LAENDER**

Denmark

In Denmark a National Society has been organized.
The Officers of the Executive Committee are:
President: Prof. Dr H. C. Aslyng,
Secretary and Treasurer: Dr H. L. Jensen,
Professor S. Tovborg Jensen.

Egyptian Soil Science Society

The following 5 members were elected to the Executive Committee:

President: Dr Hassan Hamdi;
Vice-President: Dr Mustapha el Gabaly;
Treasurer: Abdel Hamid Ibrahim Mustapha;
Secretary: Dr Mohamed Atef Abdel Salam;
Member: Dr Abdel Moneim Bolba.

Israel Society of Soil Science

The following 5 members were elected to the Executive Committee:

Prof. Dr S. Ravikovitch, Chairman;
Eng. E. Muravsky, Secretary;
Dr J. Hagin, Treasurer;
J. Noy, and D. Carmeli.

Soil Science Society of America.

President: G. B. Bodman, Univ. of California (Berkeley).
Vice-President: Guy D. Smith, SCS, USDA, Washington D.C.
Past President: L. B. Nelson, ARS, USDA, Beltsville, Md.

Chairmen of the Divisions:

- Div. I, Soil Physics:* Chairman E. R. Lemon, Cornell University;
Div. II, Soil Chemistry: Chairman N. T. Coleman, North Carolina State College;
Div. III, Soil Microbiology: Chairman W. H. Fuller, University of Arizona;
Div. IV, Soil Fertility and Fertilizers: Chairman W. H. Garman, National Plant
Food Inst. Washington D.C.;
Subdiv. IV-A, Organic Soils: Chairman R. S. Farnham, University of Minnesota;
Subdiv. IV-B, Plant Nutrients: Chairman J. W. Fitts, North Carolina State College;
Div. V, Soil Genesis, Morphology and Classification: Chairman W. M. Johnson,
SCS, USDA, P.O. Box 520, Berkeley, Calif.;
Div. V-A, Forest and Range Soils: Chairman Otis L. Copeland, Jr., Forest Service,
USDA, Ogden, Utah;
Div. VI, Soil, Water Management and Conservation: Chairman M. D. Thorne,
Oklahoma A & M.

Schwedische Bodenkundliche Gesellschaft

Professor Olaf Tamm ist als Vorsitzender zurückgetreten.
Seit Gründung der Gesellschaft hat er den Vorstand angehört, davon die letzten
14 Jahren als Vorsitzender. Er wurde bei seinem Abgang zu Ehrenmitglied gewählt.

Das Präsidium hat jetzt folgende Zusammensetzung:

Vorsitzender: Prof. Dr dr. h.c. G. Torstensson;
Vice Vorsitzender: Prof. Dr L. Wiklander
Sekretär: Agr. lic. S. Odén.

Die Adresse der Gesellschaft ist Uppsala 7.

**MISCELLANEOUS NEWS - INFORMATIONS DIVERSES -
VERMISCHTE MITTEILUNGEN**

Symposium on Soil Structure

On the personal initiative of Dr L. De Leenheer of Ghent, Belgium, vice-president of Commission I, a three-days symposium will be held at the State Agricultural University, Ghent on 28, 29 and 30th of May 1958, for the purpose of discussing practical problems in soil structure.

This symposium coincides with the presence of Professor Don Kirkham of Iowa as a visiting professor of soil physics.

On the program are such vital questions as:

- "What causes soil structure deterioration?"* A. J. LOW, "Jealott's Hill Research Station", Bracknell, Berks, England.
- "How may a poor structure be improved?"* P. K. PEERLKAMP, "Institute for Soil Fertility", Groningen, Netherlands (on practical methods); H. FRESE, "Institute for Soil Tillage, Agricultural Research Station", Brunswick, Germany (on soil working methods).
- "What are the best methods to evaluate soil structure in the field?"* S. HENIN, "Soil Science Laboratory, National Centre of Agronomic Research", Versailles, France.
- "Are air and water conditions the most important properties of soil structure?"* DON KIRKHAM, Professor of Soil Physics, Ames, Iowa (U.S.A.) Fulbright (visiting) Professor, 1957—58, Ghent.
- "Can we arrive at a uniform, generally acceptable methodology for investigating soil structure in the laboratory?"* M. DE BOODT, "Soil Science Laboratory, State Agricultural University", Ghent, Belgium.

Soil Compaction Terminology and Measurement

Committees from the Soil Science Society of America and American Society of Agricultural Engineers are working together on a report which lists the principal physical and mechanical properties of soils that are of possible importance in soil compaction research. The report will give definitions, methods of measurement, a general discussion, and reference pertaining to a number of subjects. Final approval of the report is expected later this year and it will be published by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

Publication of "Methods of Soil Analysis"

The Soil Science Society of America will undertake publication of a book on "Methods of Soil Analysis". This book will replace the chapter on soils in "Official Agricultural Chemists". The AOAC has discontinued this chapter on soils. The new SSSA book will cover methods of soil analysis or measurement for the fields of chemistry (including total elemental analysis and soil testing for nutrient availability), physics, mineralogy, and microbiology. The methods will not be designated as standard or official.

The publication will first appear in a mimeographed, looseleaf form within the next 3 years. After a period of use and revision, it will then be printed and bound.

Selecting and editing the methods will be handled by the appropriate committees of the SSSA. There is no set number of procedures for any analysis or measurement. The number will be based on need and usefulness of the methods.

NEW EDITIONS - NOUVELLES EDITIONS - NEUE AUSGABEN

The American Society for Testing Materials has recently issued the following book which may be of importance to those specially interested in soil water-plant production relationships

Determination of dissolved oxygen in water

Special Technical Publication No. 219

64 Pages, Hard Cover, 6 x 9", \$ 2.25.

The concentration of dissolved oxygen in water is an important consideration for water used in both biological and industrial processes. Not only is it necessary to know the exact concentration at intervals but in many processes it is necessary to guard against momentary or periodic variations in the concentration.

This symposium presents the best current information on methods and apparatus for determining dissolved oxygen in water including both the manual spot-check methods and those using instruments providing continuous indication and record. The authors discuss the principal advantages and disadvantages of their respective procedures and apparatus, indicating the conditions under which each can be most appropriately applied.

The book is illustrated and several of the papers contain numerous references. The papers are:

A study of the Accuracy of Methods of Testing for Dissolved Oxygen in High-Purity Water — K. G. Stoffer.

Polarographic Measurement of Dissolved Oxygen — W. H. Eckenfelder, Jr. and Brother Conrad Burris.

The Beckman Dissolved Oxygen Analyzer — Thomas Finnegan and R. C. Tucker.

Evaluation of Hartmann and Braun Dissolved Oxygen Recorder for Boiler Feed-water — A. J. Ristaino and A. A. Dominick.

Determination of Dissolved Oxygen by Means of a Cambridge Analyzer — H. A. Grabowski.

Copies of this timely book may be obtained from American Society for Testing Materials Headquarters, 1916 Race Street, Phila 3, Pa. at \$ 2.25 each.

FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF ALLIED SCIENCES

PROCHAINS CONGRES INTERNATIONAUX DE SCIENCES CONNEXES

ZUKÜNFTIGE INTERNATIONALE KONGRESSE VON VERWANDTEN

WISSENSCHAFTEN

June 2-4 1958	5th International Congress of Sedimentology	Secretariat 5th International Congress of Sedimentology, International Association of Sedimentology, Musée Géologique, Palais de Rumine, Lausanne, Switzer- land	Geneva and Lausanne, Switzerland
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