



GlobalHort Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

January-March, 2008

Coming Events

3rd to 7th Mar 2008

The International Symposium on Underutilized Plants (ISUP), Arusha, Tanzania (www.icuc-iwmi.org)

3rd to 4th Apr 2008

Paepard (Platform for African-European Partnership on Agricultural Research for Development) Round Table for Eastern and Southern Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa

27th to 30th May 2008

International Fruit and Vegetable Summit, Paris, France. (www.sommetfruitsetlegumes.com/)

13th to 17th Jul 2008

Fifth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning: "Access to Learning for Development", London, Eng. (www.pcf5.london.ac.uk/)

5th to 9th Oct 2008

International Symposium on Banana and Plantain in Africa, Mombasa, Kenya. (www.banana2008.com)

3rd to 7th Nov 2008

IV International Symposium on Tropical and Subtropical Fruits, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia. (www.ifs2008.info/)

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GlobalHort Holds Second Annual Board of Directors Meeting in Hong Kong Dec. 8, 2007

For GlobalHort, 2008 marks the start of a new era with a strengthened Board of Directors, growing staff and activities, including research projects needing to be facilitated or coordinated, global events on horticulture to be organized and convened and new resources to be acknowledged. These priorities and decisions have been taken on December 8, 2007 during the second annual meeting of the GlobalHort Board of Directors. The meeting was to have been originally held at the CGIAR AGM in Beijing however, due to political reasons, the venue was quickly changed to Hong Kong

where a very productive meeting was held.

GlobalHort was officially launched in March 2006 where the interim Executive Committee identified and nominated the first organizations to have representatives on its Board of Directors for a three-year term. In April 2007 Rémi Kahane was selected as its first Executive Secretary. Much has been accomplished over the formative year and a solid foundation has been established for a successful and dynamic organization.



GlobalHort Board of Directors

The Board of Directors would like to announce some changes in its composition for 2008. (continued on page 3)



Welcome Symposium Delegates to Arusha

GlobalHort and AVRDC-RCA are very pleased to welcome the 200 delegates from over 50 countries that will be with us to attend the International Symposium, "Underutilized Plants for Food, Nutrition, Income and Sustainable Develop-

ment", March 3-7, 2008.

It is an honor and a privilege to have you as our guests. We hope that we will all have a chance to network and become more collaborative in future. Please enjoy and experience the great hor-

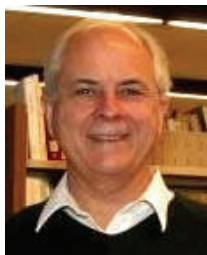
tical diversity and friendly people that you will find in Tanzania.



Staff News

Jerry Miner has taken on a year's assignment from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) to be GlobalHort's first Webmaster in Charge of Communications starting January 7, 2008.

He comes to GlobalHort with over thirty years experience in the information management field. Mr. Miner completed his undergraduate degree at Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, and obtained his M.L.S. (Library Science) from the University of Toronto. Mr. Miner has worked as an academic librarian at the University of Saskatchewan, the University of New Brunswick, and Acadia University. He has also worked in the public library sector



Jerry Miner

as the Union Catalogue Librarian for the Nova Scotia Provincial Library in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

For the past 27 years, Mr. Miner has been the Head of Information Services at the Atlantic Food and Horticulture Research Centre, Kentville, Nova Scotia. In this position he was a member of the Canadian Agriculture Library Network which is the oldest federal library system in Canada and also the largest agriculture and food science library in Canada. In 1997 Mr. Miner was the recipient of an Agcellence innovation award for his participation in the Agriweb Canada initiative. In 1998 the AAFC Research Branch presented him with another award for his work as an AAFC Internet pioneer.

Always interested in the web as an educational tool, Mr. Miner through a Canada Interchange with Acadia University, served as the first Program Head at Acadia University's Vaughan Memorial Library from 1997-1999 to leverage the use of the Internet for teaching and life-long learning. As a result of his efforts in this position *Chatelaine Magazine's* Sept. 2000 Webguide acknowledged his *Good Health Online* website to be "one of the most helpful sites of its kind in Canada".

Mr. Miner is very excited about having been given the opportunity to work on a fine global initiative such as this one and hopes that the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will become one of GlobalHort's funding partners.

Gladys Machange has recently been appointed Assistant-Secretary of GlobalHort.

In 2005 she received her B.Sc in Agronomy from Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro, Tanzania. From 2005-2007 she worked as an assistant farm manager at Gomba Estate Ltd. in

Arusha. For the last five months she has worked for AVRDC-RCA as administrative assistant to the Vegetable Breeding and Seed System project (vBSS).

Originally from Kili-manjaro, Gladys now



Gladys Machange

resides in Arusha with her husband, David Mganah, and is happy to announce that she is expecting her first child this year.

Gladys is eager to work hand in hand with her executives to ensure that all activities rendered by GlobalHort are well-organized so as to meet its goals.

Hot Pineapple Drink from Peru

Did you know that you can eat almost the whole pineapple? Marcella Dionisio is a technical trainee with a background in entomology. She has been working at the AVRDC-RCA in Arusha, Tanzania for the last two years however she is originally from Lima, Peru. In Peru they make a delicious hot pineapple drink from the rind and core of the pineapple. They call this drink Chicha Morada. In Peru Marcella says that they add a purple maize called maiz morado to the recipe which makes it a purple colour however since it is not available in Tanzania she makes it without it. The great thing about the recipe is that you are using the whole pineapple and not wasting anything. You can enjoy the beverage and still have the fresh pineapple flesh as well. This drink, when the chicha is present, can also be fermented. Pineapple juice includes vitamin C and the enzyme bromelain, which is a natural digestive enzyme with anti-inflammatory properties. Bromelain is found in peak concentration within the pineapple rind. (See recipe on page 4)



GlobalHort Holds Second Annual Board... (continued from page 1)

It would like to welcome a new organization representing the farmers' groups, International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) will debate on its representative members to the Board. Dr Thomas Lumpkin was confirmed as Board Chair however, since he will be moving to CIMMYT in 2008, Dr Norman Looney, President of ISHS, was elected as Vice-Chair for a 3-year period with the capacity of taking over all the duties of the Chair. GlobalHort would like to thank Dr Lumpkin for his vision, dedication and leadership and wish him well in his new DG position.

GlobalHort has submitted its statutes and will soon be registered under Belgian law as an international organization. The Board

now feels that it is time to move on to even greater challenges. A high-quality and extendable web portal, GlobalHort Portal, has been recently established as well as setting up its Executive Secretariat with newly recruited staff in Africa. Jerry Miner is the Webmaster and Communication Officer who has just arrived in Arusha and the Portfolio Manager, Jürgen Anthofer, will start in April. The next great challenge is to secure increased funding for GlobalHort's activities. For this, there are great expectations of being able to rely on the French government, the European Commission, the Dutch government and on the Taiwanese government

for their kind and generous support.

Horticulture is now becoming widely regarded as an engine for growth in the developing countries and the CGIAR and the World Bank must turn this interest into support. GlobalHort finds itself

"GlobalHort finds itself well-placed and equipped to take on the leadership role as its [horticulture's] promoter, collaborator and capacity builder."

well-placed and equipped to take on the leadership role as its promoter, collaborator and capacity builder. Research will continue to be an important focus however this will also be supplemented with an interest in the more practical programs relating to the farmers and the link to markets.

Secretariat Activities



Rémi Kahane

So far 2008 has revealed itself to be a very active one for the Executive Secretary. Africa, Asia, and Europe have been travelled in order to link as many partners and initiatives as possible.

The ISHS symposium on the "Socio-economic Impacts of Modern Techniques on Vegetable Production in Tropical Asia" has provided 65 participants with case studies and research findings. It has substantially contributed to elaborate a position paper with six areas of recommendations for developing a stronger public-private partnership for vegetable production in Tropical Asia.

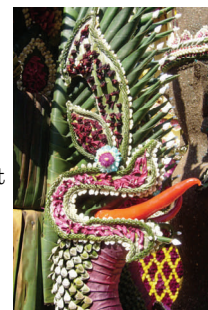
At the end of the ISHS Symposium there was an Asian Vegetable Forum attended by representatives from six

countries and the private seed sector. The Asia & Pacific Seed Association (APSA) and GlobalHort could share much more than just organize issues on vegetable production in Tropical Asia. During the Forum, AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center detailed its proposal for an international network on vegetable variety testing and a discussion followed as a result of demands for integrating technical practices (high or low input, protected or not, drip-irrigated or not) in order to deliver a complete information package detailing more than just phenotypic variety characteristics.

GlobalHort has and will be promoting horticulture for development at numerous international events and initiatives. The Secretariat has convened a special session with African scientific partners at the Symposium on Horticulture in Europe (SHE2008) in Vienna, Austria Feb. 17-20, 2008.

It will facilitate the preparation of proposals for a Challenge Program on High-Value Crops through the provision of an informative webpage on the GlobalHort Portal. (www.globalhort.org/network-communities/high-value-crops/).

The Secretariat has also contributed in the FAO-WHO program on the "Promotion of Fruits and Vegetables" (PROFEL), with workshops in Seoul and Yaoundé and continued discussions to follow at the "International Fruit and Vegetable Summit" in Paris, May 2008. This event has attracted GlobalHort Board members to combine a Board meeting at the IFAP Paris head office.



Thailand Dragon

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GlobalHort Portal is a dynamic website that is constantly refreshed with the latest in horticultural information worldwide.

For current events, news and knowledge please come visit us often.

The Global Horticulture Initiative acts as a global facility for coordinated horticultural research that provides solutions towards increasing health, productivity and safety in sustainable environments, to uplift the quality of life of the poorest populations in the world.

It will contribute to improve interest, support and resources to the horticultural sector, public and private, from donors, research and development agencies, and decision makers.

Its four key activities are:

- *Promoting horticultural research for development*
- *A program of grants for horticultural research*
- *A knowledge hub for dispersed cooperating horticultural communities*
- *Facilitating horticultural training, education and capacity building*

Nightshade with Green Soybean Recipe from Tanzania

Mrs. Joyce Ngegba from Tanzania developed this recipe while completing her studies at AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center. The Center is involved in extensive research and development work to improve the usage of indigenous vegetables both in Africa and Asia.

African nightshade (*solanum scarbrum*); Swahili name – Mnavu, is short-lived perennial herb. Leaves and fresh shoots of nightshade are widely used as a cooked vegetable often served with corn meal, sweet potatoes, potatoes, yams, cassava and rice. To reduce the bitterness, leaves can be boiled and the water discarded.



Ingredients

Nightshade leaves – 150g
Green soybean, shelled – 150g
Carrots, cut into cubes – 120g
Onions, sliced – 60g
Roasted groundnut paste (blended peanuts) – 40g
Cooking oil – 40g
Salt – 4g

Procedure

Boil the green soybeans until half cooked. Prepare onions, carrots and groundnuts. Prepare nightshade leaves; sort and remove stalks and wash. Heat oil. Add carrots and onions, then add soybean. Fry until onions are lightly browned. Add salt to taste. Add the nightshade leaves, and then groundnuts. Mix well. Simmer for 5 minutes. Makes 3 servings.

Preparation time: 10 minutes; **Cooking time:** 20 minutes

Tips to retain and enhance nutrients

- One serving provides 10% of energy, 45% of vitamin A, 25% of zinc, 25% of iron and 25% of protein (Recommended daily allowances).
- Vegetable soybean improves the taste by reducing the bitterness in nightshades, and also provides protein, vitamin C, A and folate.

Pineapple Recipe

Peel and core one well-washed pineapple.

Place the peel and core in a sauce pan and cover with water (approx 2 liters).

Add 10 whole cloves and 1 cinnamon stick (more to taste).

Boil for 5 minutes on high and then reduce the temperature and simmer for another 10 minutes.

Pour through a strainer into a juice container. Sugar may be added to taste however it is not necessary.

The drink can be served hot or cold.



AVRDC-RCA and Mt. Meru