

Historical Aspect of the Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society and the 11th APWSS Conference Experience

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The First Asian-Pacific Weed Interchange Conference was held on June 12-22, 1967 at the University of Hawaii, in Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S. A. The participants comprised from 21 countries with 87 scientists representing Official Institutes, Universities, Agricultural Experiment Stations and Companies affiliated with agriculture. This is the beginning of APWSS. The conference recognized the importance to intensify a research on weed science in this particular region and thus recommend to organize Asian-Pacific Weed Science Society (APWSS). The new international organization was thus born. During the first conference, Dr. Marcos R. Vega from the Philippines was elected as a president. The second conference was held at the University of the Philippines in College, Laguna, Philippines in June 1969. At that time, still using the name Second Asian-Pacific Weed Control Interchange Conference. The present name has been adopted from the third Asian-Pacific Weed Science conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on June 1971. At the 4th APWSS Conference held in New Zealand, Dr. K. Noda Japan was elected as the forth president (1973-1975) and Dr. Mohamad Soerjani from Indonesia was elected as the vice president. Thus the fifth APWSS Conference was held in Japan and the sixth in Indonesia. One conference in two year period was regulated to elect new vice president in each conference. The newly elected vice president is automatically promoted to the president in the next conference with and obligation to hold the next conference.

The author was elected as a vice president during the Ninth Conference in Manila,

Philippines, then automatically promoted to be a president (1985-1987) from the end of the 10th Conference which was held in Chiangmai, Thailand on November 1985. At this meeting, Korean delegate was elected as a vice president. Accordingly 11th conference was held in Taipei in 1987 and 12th conference will be held in Korea in 1989.

Twenty-one years has been passed since the establishment of APWSS. As conferences of the society attracts more weed scientist, the society grows robustly. During 1967 to 1987, eleven APWSS Conference had been held. The important records on the past eleven conferences were listed in the Table.

For promoting an academic level of weed science, awards have been offered to the best three papers starting from the 9th APWSS Conference sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Company. The awards have been expanded further to encompass the best poster awards with one out of ten posters presented starting from the 11th conference held in Taipei.

In November 29 to December 5, 1987, the 11th APWSS Conference was held at Howard Plaza Hotel in Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China. The conference was sponsord by the Weed Science Society of the Republic of China and co-sponsorted by Asian Vegetable Research and Development Center (AVRDC) and Food and Fertilizer Technology Center (FFTC/ASPAC). One hundred and forty three papers were presented in one plenary session, 18 concurrent sessions, one poster session and in a special symposium in "Weeds and their Control in Vegetable Production."

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Past Conferences of the APWSS

Conference Time	Place Country	No. of papers (and posters) presented	No. of country and region participated	No. of participants	
				Total	Local
1st June 12-22 1967	Honolulu Hawaii USA		21	87	
2nd June 16-20 1969	College Laguna Philippines	47	20	146	
3rd June 7-12 1971	Kuala Lumpur Malaysia	60	21	201	69
4th Mar. 12-16 1973	Rotorua New Zealand	78	18	ca.300	
5th Oct. 5-11 1975	Tokyo Japan	113	21	310	
6th July 11-17 1977	Jakarta Indonesia	93	20	314	171
7th Nov. 26-30 1979	Sydney Australia	115 (15)	19	251	127
8th Nov. 22-29 1981	Bangalore India	120	18	290	179
9th Nov. 28- Dec. 2 1983	Manila Philippines	77 (10)	17	303	109
10th Nov. 24-30 1985	Chiangmai Thailand	92 (11)	23	530	241
11th Nov. 29- Dec. 5 1987	Taipei Taiwan ROC	143 (28)	18	462	155

Schedule of the 11th APWSS Conference

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Nov. 27-28 Friday- Saturday	Pre-Conference Technical Visit to AVRDC & TSRI		
Nov. 29 Sunday	Arrival Registration	Executive Committee Meeting	
Nov. 30 Monday	Registration Opening Ceremony	Plenary Lectures	Welcome Reception
Dec. 1 Tuesday	Registration Concurrent Sessions	Concurrent Sessions Poster Session	Get-Together Dinner Party
Dec. 2 Wednesday	Field Trips to TTES, TARI & TACTRI		
Dec. 3 Thursday	Concurrent Sessions	City Tour	
Dec. 4 Friday	Symposium	Symposium Closing Ceremony	Farewell Banquet
Dec. 5 Saturday	DEPARTURE		
Dec. 5-7	Post Congress Tour a) One day tour to Taroko Gorge with lunch b) Two days tour to Window on China & Sun Moon Lake c) Three days tour to Southern Taiwan & National Kenting Park		