IPNI Scholar Award Recipients - 2017

The International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) has selected the winners of its annual Scholar Award Program. In 2017, a total of 37 graduate students representing 20 countries, were chosen. Each winner receives the equivalent of US$2,000.

"The selection committee was challenged by a record response by applicants," said Dr. Terry L. Roberts, IPNI President. "This group of IPNI Scholars should be proud of this accomplishment. They have each demonstrated an impressive body of work and are already contributing greatly to the field of plant nutrition," said Roberts.

Graduate students attending a degree-granting institution located in any country within an IPNI regional program are eligible. The award is available to graduate students in science programs relevant to plant nutrition science and the management of crop nutrients including: agronomy, horticulture, ecology, soil fertility, soil chemistry, crop physiology, environmental science, and others.

Regional committees of IPNI scientific staff select the recipients of the IPNI Scholar Award. The awards are presented directly to the students at a preferred location and no specific duties are required of them.

The winners are listed below according to IPNI program and country and university/institution affiliation.

NORTH AFRICA

Siham Baha Eddine
Morocco

Ms. Siham Baha Eddine, **University Ibn Tofail**, Kenitra, Morocco. **Ph.D. Program**: Best Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium Fertilizer Management to Control Wheat Crown Rot Caused by *Fusarium culmorum*.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Mrs. Abeba Nigussie Retta, College of Dryland Agriculture and Natural Resources, **Mekelle University**, Mekelle, Ethiopia. **Ph.D. Program**: Managing of Low Carbon and Alkaline Soils in the Cereal-Based Cropping System of the Northern Semiarid Zone of Ethiopia.

Mr. Athuman Mahinda, Tanzanian Study at **Kyoto University**, Graduate School of Agriculture, Japan. **Ph.D. Program**: Influence of In-situ Rain Water Harvesting Techniques and Nutrients Management for Sorghum Production in the Semi-Arid Areas of Tanzania.

Abeba Nigussie Retta
Ethiopia

Athuman Mahinda
Tanzania

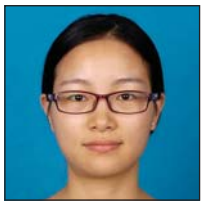
Ruth Atchoglo
Togo

Ms. Ruth Atchoglo, High School of Agronomy, **University of Lomé**, Togo. **M.Sc. Program**: Determination of the Economically Optimum Rates of On-farm Manure and Urea for Maize Grown on Barre Soil Areas.

CHINA

Mr. Chen Zhaoming, Institute of Soil Science, **Chinese Academy of Science**, Nanjing, China. **Ph.D. Program**: Effects of Nitrogen Placement on Wheat Yield and Fate of Urea-^{15}N in the Wheat-soil System in the Middle and Lower Yangtze River Basin.

Chen Zhaoming
China



Fang Xianzhi
China

Liu Chuang
China

Liu Xiaowei
China

Muhammad Shoaib Rana - China

Ms. Fang Xianzhi, **Zhejiang University**, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China. **M.Sc. Program**: Nitrate Transporter NRT1.1 Regulates Resistance of Abiotic Stresses in Plant.

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CHINA continued

Mr. Liu Chuang, **Chinese Academy of Sciences**, Moshan, Wuchang, Wuhan, China. **Ph.D. Program**: A Novel Way to Establish Fertilization Recommendations Based on Agronomic Efficiency and a Sustainable Yield Index for Rice Crops.

Mr. Liu Xiaowei, **Chinese Academy of Sciences**, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China. **Ph.D. Program**: Effect of Nitrogen Fertilization Pattern on Rice Yield, Nitrogen Use Efficiency and Fertilizer Nitrogen Fate in the Yangtze River Basin, China.

Mr. Muhammad Shoaib Rana, College of Resource and Environment, **Huazhong Agricultural University**, Wuhan, Hubei, China. **Ph.D. Program**: Effects of Long Term Molybdenum Application on Soil Phosphorus Transformation Characteristics and Bioavailability Based on Microorganism and Plant Interaction.

RUSSIA

Aleksey Guzenko
Russia

Olga Silujanova
Russia

Mr. Aleksey Guzenko, **Volgograd State Agrarian University**, Volgograd, Russia. **M.Sc. Program**: The Experience of Liquid Complex Fertilizer Use to Sunflower in Rodina Agrienterprise in Kikvidze District of Volgograd Oblast.

Ms. Olga Silujanova, **Vologda State Dairy Academy**, Vologda, Russia. **Ph.D. Program**: Agroecological Efficiency of Biologically Modified Organic-Mineral Fertilizers in the Cultivation of Crops on Sod-Podzolic Light Loamy Soils.

MIDDLE EAST

Ms. Raheela Rehman, **Sabanci University**, Istanbul, Turkey. **Ph.D. Program**: Uptake, Transport and Seed Deposition of Zinc and Iodine in Wheat and Maize.

Raheela Rehman
Turkey

NORTH AMERICA

Joshua Nasielski
Canada

Leonardo Bastos
United States

Joel Crowther
United States

Josh Henry
United States

Natalie Ricks
United States

Joseph (Jay) Weeks
United States

Mr. Joshua Nasielski, **University of Guelph**, Guelph, Ontario, Canada. **Ph.D. Program**: The Nitrogen Economy of Agroecosystems: Soil Moisture as Regulator of Maize Nitrogen Demand.

Mr. Leonardo Bastos, **University of Nebraska-Lincoln**, Lincoln, Nebraska, United States. **Ph.D. Program**: Integrating Fertilizer Field Strategies, Crop Canopy Sensors and Crop Models for Nitrogen Management in Irrigated Corn Systems.

Mr. Joel Crowther, **University of Nebraska-Lincoln**, Lincoln, Nebraska, United States. **M.Sc. Program**: Integrating Management Zones and Canopy Sensing to Improve Nitrogen Recommendation Algorithms.

Mr. Josh Henry, **North Carolina State University**, Raleigh, North Carolina, United States. **Ph.D. Program**: Characterization of Tobacco Abiotic Disorders Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Analysis.

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NORTH AMERICA continued

Ms. Natalie Ricks, **University of Minnesota**, Saint Paul, Minnesota, United States. **M.Sc. Program**: Improving Nitrogen Management and Water Quality with Cover Crops and Living Mulches for Corn Cropping Systems on Irrigated Coarse-Textured Soils in Minnesota.

Mr. Joseph (Jay) Weeks, **Kansas State University**, Manhattan, Kansas, United States. **Ph.D. Program**: Elements of Surprise: Investigations into the Fate and Transport of Historically Mismanaged Lead and Phosphorus to Better Protect Humans and the Environment.

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Chelsea Stroppiana
Australia

Amy Whitley
New Zealand

Ms. Chelsea Stroppiana, **The University of Queensland** - School of Agriculture and Food Science / Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, Queensland, Australia. **Ph.D. Program**: Improving Nitrogen Use Efficiency in High Risk Environments.

Ms. Amy Whitley, **Lincoln University**, Canterbury, New Zealand. **Ph.D. Program**: Soil pH and Aluminum Toxicity in New Zealand High and Hill Country Soils.

LATIN AMERICA - SOUTHERN CONE

Ms. Stefania Appelhans, **University of Buenos Aires**, Buenos Aires, Argentina. **Ph.D. Program**: Contribution of Organic Fractions to the Diagnosis of Phosphorus Fertility in Corn and Soybean.

Prof. Oswaldo Ernst, College of Agronomy-**Universidad de la Republica Oriental del Uruguay,** Paysandú, Uruguay. **Ph.D. Program**: Estimation of the Wheat Yield Gap in Uruguay: Loss of Soil Quality as a Determining Factor.

Stefania Appelhans
Argentina

Oswaldo Ernst
Uruguay

BRAZIL

Mr. Gerson Laerson Drescher, **Federal University of Santa Maria**, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. **Ph.D. Program**: Nitrogen Distribution in the Soil Profile and Soil Sampling Depth to Calibrate the Direct Steam Distillation Method for Flooded Rice.

Gerson Laerson
Drescher - Brazil

Danilo Silva Almeida
Brazil

Nicolás Ignacio
Stahringer - Brazil

Hugo González-Villalba
Brazil

Mr. Danilo Silva Almeida, **São Paulo State University**, Botucatu, São Paulo, Brazil. **Ph.D. Program**: Soil Phosphorus Availability in Soybean-Ruzigrass Crop Rotation.

Mr. Nicolás Ignacio Stahringer, **Federal University of Viçosa**, Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil. **Ph.D. Program**: Parameterization of Productivity and Nutritional Balance Models for *Pinus* and *Eucalyptus* in Corrientes – Argentina.

Mr. Hugo González-Villalba, **University of São Paulo**, Piracicaba, São Paulo, Brazil. **Ph.D. Program**: Agronomic Efficiency of Starter Fertilization in Maize Using a Mixture of Commercial Urea and Polymer Coating of Sulfur-Coated Urea.

Funding for the scholar award program is provided through support of IPNI member companies, primary producers of nitrogen, phosphate, potash, and other fertilizers.

More information is available from IPNI staff, individual universities, or from the IPNI website: www.ipni.net/awards. Short biographies for each Scholar are available from http://www.ipni.net/article/IPNI-3474. BC

SOUTH ASIA


A.K.M. Mahbub Ur Rahman - Bangladesh


Mahasweta Chakraborty - India


Jemila Chellappa India


Suresh Kumar Kakraliya - India


Adenipekun Gabriel Shitu - India


Nandkishore Sudhakar Thombare - India


Veena Kumari Tudu India


Bandhu Raj Baral Nepal


Aqsa Nazeer Pakistan


R.A. Asanka Ratnnayaka - Sri Lanka

Mr. A.K.M. Mahbub Ur Rahman, **Bangladesh Agricultural University**, Mymensingh. **Ph.D. Program**: Agronomic Options to Iron, Zinc and Selenium Biofortification of Lentil.

Ms. Mahasweta Chakraborty, **Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya**, West Bengal, India. **Ph.D. Program**: Zinc Profiling and its Biofortification of Crops for Improving Bioavailability.

Ms. Jemila Chellappa, **Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**, Tamil Nadu, India. **Ph.D. Program**: Integrated Zinc Nutrient Management on Growth, Yield, and Grain Zinc Enrichment of Pearlmillet in Calcareous Soils.

Mr. Suresh Kumar Kakraliya, **CCS Haryana Agricultural University**, Hisar, Haryana, India. **Ph.D. Program**: Participatory Assessment of Portfolios of Climate Smart Agricultural Practices for Adapting Rice-Wheat Cropping System to Climate Variability in Climate Smart Villages of Haryana.

Mr. Adenipekun Gabriel Shitu, **ICAR - Indian Agricultural Research Institute**, New Delhi, India. **Ph.D. Program**: Assessment of Precision Conservation Agricultural Practices and their Perceived Impact on Climate Smart Agriculture in Indo-Gangetic Plain.

Mr. Nandkishore Sudhakar Thombare, **Birla Institute of Technology**, Mesra, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India. **Ph.D. Program**: Synthesis and Evaluation of Cross-Linked Guar Gum Hydrogels for Environmental and Agricultural Applications.

Ms. Veena Kumari Tudu, **Birsa Agricultural University**, Kanke, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India. **Ph.D. Program**: Genetics of Drought Tolerance in Maize under Different Potassium Levels.

Mr. Bandhu Raj Baral, **Agriculture and Forestry University**, Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal. **Ph.D. Program**: Enhancing Nitrogen Use Efficiency in Rice under Rain-fed Conditions in Nepal.

Ms. Aqsa Nazeer, Pakistan Department of Agronomy, **Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan**, Multan, Pakistan. **M.Sc. Program**: Role of Potassium Nutrition in Oxidative Stress-induced Disruption of Source-Sink Carbon Metabolism During Boll Shedding of Cotton Under Heat Stress.

Mr. R.A. Asanka Rathnayayka, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, **University of Peradeniya Mirigama**, Sri Lanka. **M.Sc. Program**: Site-Specific Nutrient Management for Paddy Soils on the Basis of Potential Management Zones Delineated through Proximal Soil Sensing.

SOUTHEAST ASIA


Hayat Ullah Thailand

Mr. Hayat Ullah, Food Agriculture and Bioresources, **Asian Institute of Technology**, Bangkok, Thailand. **Ph.D. Program**: Evaluation of Different Nutrient Management Strategies for Rice Cultivation in the Context of Decreasing Water.