

## Sponsors

IZA  
IZASA  
CIAT-TSBF  
AGRA  
MEA  
KARI

## Scientific Committee

**President** Uzo Mokwunye (IFDC, retired)  
**Co-President** Kenneth Brown

**Vice-Presidents** Rob White (IZASA)  
Johan van Wesemael (IZA)

**Members** Omo Ohiokpehai (CIAT-TSBF, Kenya)  
Kristina Roing de Nowina (CIAT-TSBF/  
SLU, Sweden)  
Victor Wasike, KARI, Kenya



## Organising Committee

**Chairman** Omo Ohiokpehai  
**Co-Chairman** Lusike Wasilwa  
**Vice-Chairman** Rob White

**Secretary** (Contact persons)  
Rob White/Omo Ohiokpehai/Lusike Wasilwa

**Members**  
Evans Niga CIAT-TSBF, Kenya  
Kiringai Kamau VACID-Africa, Kenya  
Aissetou Yaye ANAFE, Kenya  
Kristina Roing de Nowina CIAT-TSBF/SLU, Sweden  
Joyce Jefwa CIAT-TSBF, Kenya  
Zipporah Kiruthu Top Consultancy, Kenya

### For further information contact:

Rob White, IZASA, South Africa  
or Omo Ohiokpehai, CIAT-TSBF, Nairobi, Kenya

Participation is strictly by invitation

Please e-mail the completed registration form and  
POSTER to the following e-mail addresses:

[oohiokpehai@yahoo.com](mailto:oohiokpehai@yahoo.com) or [o.ohiokpehai@cgiar.org](mailto:o.ohiokpehai@cgiar.org) or  
[robwhite@icon.co.za](mailto:robwhite@icon.co.za) or [lwasilwa@kari.org](mailto:lwasilwa@kari.org) or [lwasilwa@gmail.com](mailto:lwasilwa@gmail.com)

Dr Omo Ohiokpehai  
CIAT-TSBF, c/o ICRAF  
PO Box 30677-00100, UN Ave, Gigiri  
Nairobi, Kenya

Dr Lusike Wasilwa  
Assistant Director  
Horticulture and Industrial Crops  
Kenya Agricultural Research Institute  
PO Box 57811-00200, Nairobi, Kenya

Rob White  
IZA - Southern Africa  
P.O. Box 130920, Bryanston 2021  
South Africa  
Tel: +27 83 456 4989, Fax: +27 86 685 7824

First Circular



IZASA  
INTERNATIONAL ZINC  
ASSOCIATION  
SOUTHERN AFRICA



Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical  
International Centre for Tropical Agriculture



**Fertiliser Use:**  
The Effect of Zinc  
Fertilisation  
on Nutrition  
and Food Quality  
26th–27th March 2009  
Windsor Hotel  
Nairobi, Kenya

Participation is strictly by invitation

## Background

In Africa, the use of fertilizers (with the exception of South Africa and Egypt) is less than 8 kg per hectare. The reason for this is poor policy, poor logistics and the poverty levels of smallholder farmers. The need to improve nutrition and crop yield in sub-Saharan Africa has been well documented and could be addressed in a single policy. Poor soil conditions in East Africa and the high level of activities of various donor groups indicate that a promotion effort would yield meaningful benefits in social improvement and the opening of new markets – as part of the Millennium Development Goals. There are many agencies operating within the region including Harvest Plus and International Fertiliser Development Corporation (IFDC) and others. A coordinated approach with integration and development of land use is necessary. The Zinc Crops Conference in Turkey (2007) showed that there is need to promote the benefits of zinc in soils and target the necessary policy individuals in Kenya and the greater East Africa.

## Objectives

- Eastern Africa is a significant agricultural area (in real dollar terms). Further development and the economic need for wealth creation would have the two-fold effect of enabling increased use of fertilizer for crop yield which in turn would lead to better food security and population health. If nutrition and food quality could be improved then delivered impact would be significant.
- It has been shown that identification and development of local expertise will promote sustainability on impacting regional policies regarding nutrition and crop management. The various external participants in the region will identify locals for delivery. This conference will provide for such identification and information exchange which will identify champions for further fertilizer activity in Africa.
- The conference offers a key operational bridgehead into East Africa directly for the promotion of use of zinc containing fertilizers.
- With South Africa being the closest country with a developed fertilizer industry (product, expertise and experience) it offers the best channel to enable the sustainable development of nutrition and fertilizer policy in Africa. As Cakmak (2007) stated few African countries have zinc in fertilizer and food policy (South Africa has both).

The conference aims at collating information and mapping out a way forward in increasing the awareness of the importance of zinc in our soils, plants and diets and food quality.

It will bring together scientists, the industrial and private sector and policy-makers to discuss and exchange ideas on how to achieve the increase use of zinc in our fertiliser and food.

## Keynote speakers

Keynote speakers will be renowned scientists, food industry chieftains, development experts and government officers including the following:

- Anne Mbaabu – AGRA, Kenya
- Andre Bationo – AGRA, Kenya
- Stomph Teerdjan – University of Wageningen, Netherlands
- Johan van Biljon – Omnia Fertilizers, South Africa
- Allan Liston – Zinchem, South Africa
- Gert van der Linde – Fertilizer Society of South Africa
- Lusike Wasilwa – KARI, Kenya
- Linus Opara – Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Paul Seward – Farm Inputs Promotion- Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

There will be a public lecture at the University of Nairobi, College of Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences, Kabete Campus, Nairobi, Kenya

Posters are invited from scientists in relevant areas with special emphasis on the following areas:

- New knowledge
- New technologies
- Importance of zinc in plant and human nutrition
- Importance of zinc in food quality
- Plant uptake of zinc

Working language: English

