

From the President - 100 Years of ASABE

Aad Jongebreur



The celebration of the Centennial Annual International Meeting of our sister organisation ASABE was held in Minneapolis in Minnesota, USA on 17-20 June. For the celebration of the centennial anniversary of ASAE/ASABE (1907-2007) many extra activities were organized. For instance, there were displays of the top 15 achievements in agricultural

and biological engineering of the last 100 years, an impressive video of the profession of agricultural and biological engineers, publication of the centennial commemorative calendar with selected landmarks in agricultural history and the multimedia high school competition on the issue *What the world would be like without agricultural and biological engineers?* And not to forget more than 1200 paper presentations in the technical sessions. Nearly 2000 people registered for this important meeting.

History

During the 100 years of ASAE/ASABE, the organisation has grown from the 18 founders in 1907 to nearly 9000 members in 2007 with some 24% of them international members in 107 countries. The percentage of pre-professional/student members is remarkably high at nearly 17%. The percentage of the members employed by industry is just under 50%.

Celebration

The celebration of the centenary started with the very enthusiastic Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall. I had the privilege to convey in a short speech congratulations from EurAgEng and wished President Charles Sukup and his organisation wisdom and success for the next 100 years. Further congratulations were presented by Ludger Frerichs, member of Executive Board of EurAgEng and President of VDI-MEG, and Jaime Ortiz-Canavate on behalf of the Spanish Association of Agricultural Engineering.

During the meeting there was emphasis on both the technical developments and the development of the profession in the past hundred years. In the Exhibit Hall displays of the top 15 achievements in agricultural and biological engineering were shown. The top

achievements, chosen by 1300 members out of 100 suggestions were:

- Development of the agricultural tractor (with several trendsetters since 1907 on show in the Hall)
- ASABE standardisation procedure
- Rural electrification
- International Harvester cotton picker
- Rubber tyres on tractors
- Milking machines
- Refrigerated farm milk storage
- Conservation tillage
- Self-propelled combine
- Center pivot for irrigation
- Farm safety
- Agricultural electronics
- Harvesting sensors
- Precision farming
- Bio-fuels.

It is interesting to note that in the year 2000, agricultural mechanisation was ranked seven in the 20 greatest engineering achievements by the National Academy of Engineering.¹ The conclusion can be drawn that ASABE has covered the complete breadth of the fields of agricultural and biological engineering in the past and will continue to do this in the future as we can see from the attention given to biological engineering by members and students.

Achievements

The achievements in the past played an important role in the video of the profession and showed examples of 100 years of innovation and contributions to the quality of life today. The society's activities in the past with students in High Schools are a good example of the promotion of the profession. Personally I have evaluated a number of essays, prints and presentation media of students. Beside the past, much attention was paid to actual problems and the challenges for the future.^{2,3}

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Future

The former US President, William Clinton presented a special address to the delegates of the Centennial International Meeting. Mr Clinton underlined the necessity of finding sustainable solutions for the urgent problems of climate change, resource depletion and food security in connection with population growth. It is important to encourage young people to make the choice for a career in engineering. He was convinced that engineers will play a crucial role in tackling the high priority problems. He called the future "an engineer's dream".

The technical sessions were devoted to a very wide range of subjects such as automated guidance systems, variable rate technology for precision agriculture, information systems for precision agriculture, a global perspective on animal well-being, emissions from livestock production, dealing with ethical issues in engineering practice, hydrogen and biofuel development research, and biodiesel development research. An interesting session was organised under the title *Biogas: The Next Alternative Energy* with presentations from research, industry, a dairy farmer and service companies.

A special session covered the subject of the next 100 years. Panelists gave their reactions on subjects such as nanobiotechnology which has the potential to revolutionize agriculture, food systems, agricultural production of materials for bio-based products, energy and the challenges of food production through aquaculture. There was also a noticeable interest within the society for eco-engineering.⁴

Special parts of the celebration were the Gala Dinner and the Awards and Recognition Luncheon. It is remarkable that despite the high number of special awards (some 20 ASABE awards) plus the diverse student awards, paper awards and the induction of fellows, the appreciation and esteem of the awards among the members is high. And the insiders tell us that competition for the awards remains strong.

Closing remarks

It is quite clear that ASABE is willing to be the premier society for agricultural and biological engineers worldwide. Serving the membership with organisation of meetings on topical themes, publications and promotion of the profession are core activities in which the Society is very successful. It is instructive to note that ASABE has special committees for publications, meetings and conferences and membership development. The Centennial Annual International meeting of ASABE also demonstrated that the success depends on the content, intensity and timing of the activities carried out before the meeting.

- 1 Howard, S. (2007) Ten Agricultural and Biological Engineering Achievements that Changed the World. Resource 14, 4, 2-8
- 2 Mitrovich, S. (2007) Challenges for the 21st Century. Resource 14, 4, 8-14
- 3 Howard, S. (2007) Standing the Test of Time. Resource 14, 4, 22-28
- 4 Wilkie, A.C. (2007) Eco-Engineering a Sustainable Society. Resources 14, 6, 19-21

Biosystems Engineering

EurAgEng is proud to have *Biosystems Engineering* as its official scientific journal. Members of EurAgEng are eligible to subscribe to the journal for their own personal use at the much reduced rate of GBP199 per year, the same price as last year. If you wish to take up this offer, please contact Dave Tinker at <secgen@eurageng.net>

Books via the EurAgEng Website

Dave Tinker

NEW - There is access to a couple of publishers on our website. Look under *Publications* on the homepage. Eventually you will need to enter your membership number and password as we hope to negotiate discounts. Currently there is a straightforward link to the Wageningen Academic Press website. May I suggest that you add EurAgEng to the Organisation line when registering to buy a book on-line so that Wageningen Academic Press can see how many sales came from our members?

There is also a link to CRC Press which has a large range of textbooks, advanced texts and reference books. Although this is also just a link at the moment there will

be a "members only" page fairly soon offering books of relevance to agricultural engineering at a discount. Keep checking the EurAgEng website to see when this is live.

The CRC Press list will cover topics such as Food Safety, GIS, many areas of Environmental Science, etc which I know that agricultural engineers may have to teach, undertake research on as part of multi-disciplinary projects or may need when providing advice as consultants.

Please support these websites, and let us know whether you buy anything, what else should be added and in return we will try to negotiate further discounts.

News of Biosystems Engineering

Bill Day, Editor-in-Chief



Bill Day

The majority of EurAgEng members will now be aware that Biosystems Engineering, the Official Scientific Journal of the Society, is operating entirely by electronic submission to the Elsevier Editorial System (EES). This can be accessed via the publisher's portal at <http://ees.elsevier.com/ybeng/>. The journal is being run by a new editorial team of Prof Bill Day as Editor-in-Chief and Dr Steve Parkin as Managing Editor.

The journal publishes research papers that present new scientific understanding and innovation in the physical sciences and engineering to understand, model, process or enhance biological systems for sustainable developments in agriculture, food, land use and the environment. Papers previously submitted to Prof Brian Witney have been transferred to the new editorial team and are being progressed in parallel with new electronic submissions.

The Journal is now owned by the UK National Society, IAgRE, and continues to be published by Elsevier. The

society and the publisher have recorded their thanks to the previous editor, Prof Brian Witney, who took the journal forward so strongly over the nine years to March 2007. The journal is now much larger and more prestigious than it was back in 1998. In 2006 it achieved an ISI Impact Factor greater than 1 for the first time, demonstrating the increasing value seen by the scientific community in the papers being published in the journal.

The new editorial team will be present at the AgEng conferences, both in Hanover this November and in Crete next June, and look forward to meeting existing and aspiring authors, to discuss future publication possibilities.



Steve Parkin



Brian Witney

Keeping up to date

Our EurAgEng Secretary-General, Dave Tinker, wishes to send short email messages to members updating them with information which may be of interest. He promises the messages will be short and informative, and that no information will be passed to anyone who should not have it. Please would you make sure your email address is correct on the database by logging in as described below and making any corrections. If you do not wish to receive the updates, please send him a message to <secgen@eurageng.net> with *Unsubscribe to Updates* as the subject heading.

Logging in

To log in, enter the first four letters of your surname and your password. Initially your password is the same as your membership number, which is the 4 or 5 digit number on your address label. If you would like a reminder of your membership number, contact Dave Tinker on <secgen@eurageng.net>. Once you have logged in, you can change your password to any combination of up to ten letters and numbers.

Updating your own membership details

Enter any details which should be changed in the boxes.

When you press the Submit button, a message containing the new information will be sent to the secretariat.

Finding members

To search for a particular member, enter the person's surname (or part of it), or the country (or part of it), or the field of interest. The more you enter, the closer the search will be. A list of members who fit the search criteria will then be displayed. Click on the surname of the required member to give fuller details. The search facility can also be used to find all the members in a particular field of interest or in a particular country.

Changing your password

Enter a new password up to 10 characters long. The new password will take effect immediately.

Joining a discussion forum

The discussion forum has recently been updated to make it easier to use. There is a general forum for members' discussion but if you would like to create a discussion forum for a new subject, please contact Mike Hurst on <web@eurageng.net>

More from the Manufuture AET Community

Ludger Frerichs

Head of Advanced Engineering, CLAAS Selbstfahrende Erntemaschinen GmbH



On 7 June 2007, the 2nd workshop of the Agricultural Engineering and Technologies (AET) working group took place in Brussels. Ten countries were represented with participants from agricultural engineering companies, academic institutes, associations and the Directorate General for Research of the European Commission. The

European sector of agricultural engineering and technology was informed about activities of the AET working group within the Technology Platform **Manufuture**. Also the EU Commission was made aware of research needs in the sector, and possibilities for collaboration with the Technology Platforms *Biofuels*, *Plants for the Future* and *Food for Life* were investigated. Representatives of the EU Commission presented the strategic orientation of research programmes within the seventh Framework Programme (FP7) especially in the areas Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials & New Production Technologies (NMP), Energy and Agriculture. Project proposals from the Implementation Plan of the AET working group will be incorporated into calls in 2008/2009.

During the meeting, representatives of the EU Commission described the work of the AET community as a dynamic process. On the basis of the information the community received during the workshop, the activities should focus

now on the enhancement of the Implementation Plan and the further development of innovative project ideas.

To continue in this process four different meetings in the four sectors are planned and organised. The objectives of the meetings will be, according to the AET

Strategic Research Agenda, to define and evaluate research topics in the areas of quality and product security, sustainable plant production, animal husbandry and bioenergy and to prepare and prioritize further project proposals for future calls within FP7.

For more information please contact Jens Fehrmann <fehmann@landmaschinen.tu-dresden.de> or visit our website <www.manufuture.org> and click on Collective Initiatives.

The **MANUFUTURE 2007 Conference - Constructing a Sustainably Competitive Europe**, will take place on 2-4 December in Porto, Portugal. The main objective of this 5th annual event is to debate the future of the European manufacturing industry and the conditions for its sustained development, with a special emphasis on the investment in research and development and in the upgrading of human resources.



Agricultural Information Management Standards in Wikipedia by FAO

Gauri Salokhe - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



FAO's work for the promotion and furthering of information management standards for the world agricultural community is now documented on the Wikipedia pages. At present, the principal subjects described on Wikipedia are:

- The Agricultural Metadata Element Set (AgMES), the metadata standard developed by FAO for the description and discovery of agricultural information resources: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agmes>
- FAO's Multilingual Agricultural Thesaurus (AGROVOC), structured to cover the terminology of all subject fields in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, food and related domains (eg environment): <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AGROVOC>
- The Agricultural Ontology Service (AOS) set up to serve as a reference initiative that structures and standardises agricultural terminology in multiple languages for use of any number of systems in the agricultural domain and

provide several services, with the aim of achieving more interoperability between agricultural systems:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agricultural_Ontology_Service

- The Agricultural Information Management Standards (AIMS) initiative, working to facilitate information sharing, and to overcome the problems created through resources being located often in proprietary applications and using dissimilar data models. Frequently, information system designers are unaware of existing design methodologies, data description standards or freely available tools or applications. This project is working to promote existing standards and contribute to the creation of new ones: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agricultural_Information_Management_Standards

Other languages can be selected by clicking on the language versions available from the left-hand side of each page.

Inspirational!

The EurAgEng Award of Merit



Do you work for an inspirational leader? Do you know an innovative Agricultural Engineer? Following the success of the first Award of Merit in Bonn last year, we are pleased to announce that nominations for next year's award, to be presented at AgEng2008 in Crete, will be sought formally in January 2008.

This award is designed to celebrate the lifetime achievements of an individual in the agricultural engineering industry. Last year was awarded to Ray Clay from JCB for his innovative work on the JCB Fastrac.

All members of EurAgEng and the National Societies may nominate an individual by completing the nomination form to be found on the EurAgEng website

at www.eurageng.net/merit.shtml and returning it to the Secretariat. It is not too early to start considering worthy candidates now. All nominations must be received by the Secretariat by 14 March 2008, when they will be assessed by the Awards Committee.

The winner will be invited to attend AgEng2008 in Crete on 23-25 June where he/she will be presented with a bronze statuette to mark the achievement.

The Secretariat hopes to hear from you soon!



AgEng2008

22-26 June 2008 Hersonissos, Crete

The Agricultural Engineering 2008 Conference and Industry Exhibition will be held at the Aldemar resort hotel in Hersonissos, Crete and is being organised by the Hellenic Society of Agricultural Engineers. The event will combine a full scientific program of oral and poster sessions with an industry exhibition which will include agricultural engineering products and agricultural technology equipment as well as associated services. The parallel organisation of scientific sessions with the industry exhibition will offer unique possibilities of bringing together academics, industry players, manufacturers and service providers, thus stimulating the exchange of information and opinions among professionals in the different sectors of agricultural engineering.

A feature of this conference is the emphasis it will place on the role of European agriculture as a producer of energy. Scientific trends in agricultural and biosystems engineering will be highlighted and new issues will be explored. The topics will be grouped under the headings:

- Power and Machinery, Tractors, Tillage & Seeding, Fertilising & Plant Protection, Harvesting, Automation Technology
- Information Systems and Precision Farming

- Energy Technology, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Livestock Technology, Structures, Precision Livestock Farming
- Environmental Technologies
- Fruit & Vegetable Cultivation Systems, Protected Cultivation, Greenhouse Technology
- Land & Water Use and Environment
- Processing & Post Harvest Technology and Logistics
- Systems Engineering and Management, Emerging Industrial Products, Marketing Service Systems, Traceability
- Ergonomics, Safety and Health
- Education and Extension Service

AgEng2008 promises to be an innovative conference in a delightful setting. The Island of Crete combines more than 3000 years of history with modern agricultural, industrial and tourist development.

For full details of the event and to register, go to www.ageng2008.com. Members of EurAgEng qualify for a discount on registration fees and there is an early bird discount for registrations made by 13 April 2008.

Sponsored Events

4-6 October 2007

**International Symposium
Greensys2007:
High Technology for Greenhouse
System Management**
Venue: Naples, Italy
Convenor: Prof Giacomo Scarascia Mugnozza
Tel: +39 080 5442966
Email: greensys2007@agr.uniba.it
Web: www.greensys2007.com/

8-10 October 2007

**ECOSPREAD International Seminar on
Environmental Technologies applied to
Spreading of Mineral and Organic Matters**
Organiser: CEMAGREF
Venue: Vichy and Montoldre, France
Contact: Pierre Grenier
Web: www.cemagref.fr

9-10 November 2007

**LAND.TECHNIK/AgEng2007
'Engineering Solutions for Energy and
Food Production' 65th International
Conference on Agricultural Engineering**
leading in to major fair, Agritechnica 2007
Organiser: VDI-MEG in cooperation with
EurAgEng and Agritechnica
Venue: Hanover, Germany
Web: www.vdi.de/land.technik-ageng2007

11-15 February 2008

**36th International Symposium "Actual
Tasks on Agricultural Engineering"**
Organiser: University of Zagreb
Venue: Opatija, Croatia
Web: http://atae.agr.hr
Email: atae@agr.hr
Tel: +385 | 2393819, +385 | 2393714
Fax: +385 | 2393724, +385 | 2315300

18-21 February 2008

**43rd Croatian & 3rd International
Symposium on Agriculture**
Organiser: University of Zagreb
Venue: Opatija, Croatia
Tel: +385 | 23 93 701
Fax: + 385 | 23 93 703
Web: http://sa.agr.hr
Email: sa@agr.hr

15-17 May 2008

**4th Central European Congress on
Food and 6th Croatian Congress of
Food Technologists, Biotechnologists
and Nutritionists**
Organiser: Society of Food Technologists,
Biotechnologists and Nutritionists
Venue: Cavtat, Croatia
Web: www.pbn.hr/CEFood2008/
Email: cefood2008@pbn.hr

9-11 June 2008

**Model-IT 2008: IV International
Symposium on Applications of
Modelling as an Innovative Technology
in the Agri-Food Chain**
Organiser: Universidad Politécnica de
Madrid
Venue: Madrid, Spain
Web: www.model-it2008.upm.es/
Email: model-it2008.agronomos@upm.es

18-20 June 2008

**DEBRIS FLOW 2008
2nd International Conference on
Debris Flow**
Organiser: Wessex Institute of Technology
Venue: New Forest, UK
Email: rswinburn@wessex.ac.uk
Web: www.wessex.ac.uk/debris2008cfp.html

22-26 June 2008

**AgEng2008 - Agricultural and
Biosystems Engineering for a
Sustainable World: International
Conference on Agricultural Engineering**
Organiser: Agricultural University of
Athens and EurAgEng
Venue: Hersonissos, Crete - Greece
Web: www.ageng2008.com
Email: secretariat@ageng2008.com

Other Events

14-17 October 2007

**International Congress Mechanization
and Energy in Agriculture**
Venue: Antalya, Turkey
Email: ageng2008@akdeniz.edu.tr
Web: www.akdeniz.edu.tr/ageng2008/

18-19 October 2007

**Conference 'Romanian agriculture in the
EU - opportunities and perspectives'**
Venue: Iasi, Romania
Email: dbucur@univagro-iasi.ro
Web: www.univagro-iasi.ro/simpozion

8-10 November 2007

**EUROPE INBO 2007 - International
Conference on the Implementation of the
European Water Framework Directive**
Venue: Rome, Italy
Organiser: INBO, Free registration
Tel: +33.1.44.90.88.60
Email: inbo@wanadoo.fr
Web: www.inbo-news.org

22-23 November 2007

**CIAA - SAI Platform 2007 Conference
on Sustainable Agriculture**
Venue: Brussels, Belgium
Web: www.sustainableagriculture2007.eu

22-25 November 2007

**AGROEXPO Eurasia 2007 - The third
Agricultural, Greenhouse and
Livestock Exhibition**

Venue: Izmir, Turkey
Email: pinar.vuran@orionfair.com
Web: www.tarimfuari.com/index.php

5-8 February 2008

**Global workshop on high resolution
digital soil sensing & mapping**
Organiser: IUSS
Venue: Sydney, Australia
Email: r.viscarra-rossel@usyd.edu.au
Web: www.digitalsoilmapping.org/

29 March-3 April 2008

**International Conference on
Watershed Technology**
Venue: Concepción, Chile
Web: http://watershedtech.org

18-20 June 2008

Agricultural Film 2008
Organiser: Applied Market Information Ltd
Venue: Fira Palace Hotel, Barcelona, Spain
Tel: +44 (0) 117 924 9442
Email: sh@amiplastics.com
www.amiplastics.com/ami/AMIConference.asp

30 June-4 July 2008

**IAMFE Denmark 2008 - 13th
International Conference and
exhibition on mechanization of field
experiments**
Organiser: IAMFE
Venue: Koldkærgaard, Denmark
Web: www.lr.dk/iamfe2008

30 June-2 July 2008

**5th International Conference
'Soil Tillage - New Perspectives'**
Organiser: ISTRO - Czech Republic
Venue: Brno Czech Republic
Fax: +420 547 227 385
Email: badalikova@vupt.cz
Web: www.vupt.cz/

6-11 July 2008

**10th International Drainage Workshop
on Agricultural Drainage & Environment**
Organiser: ICID
Venues: Helsinki, Finland and Tallinn,
Estonia
Web: www.fincid.fi/idw2008

13-19 October 2008

**20th International Congress on Irrigation
& Drainage 'Participatory Integrated
Water Resources Management'**
Organiser: ICID
Venue: Lahore, Pakistan
Email: icid@icid.org
Web: www.icid.org

23-28 November 2008

**10th World Conference on Animal
Production**
Venue: Cape Town, South Africa
Email: wcap2008@icon.co.za
Web: www.wcap2008.co.za

There is life at Silsoe

Paul Miller and Dave Tinker

Even though Silsoe Research Institute (SRI) closed early in 2006, many of the unique skills and facilities that were offered by SRI remain available. Many of the staff have either moved to universities or consultancies or have set up in business.

For instance, the Chemical Applications Group at SRI is continuing its work as the Spray Application Unit within The Arable Group, an independent crop research and consultancy organisation. The Spray Application Unit operates from the building on the Silsoe site that houses the specialised wind tunnel facility that was initially designed and built for SRI. Following the closure of the Institute early in 2006, much of the equipment used in research and development work relating to the application of agricultural pesticides was acquired by The Arable Group and a small team recruited to continue work in this area. Bringing engineering and physical scientist specialists to work closely with agronomists has been seen to give important advantages to both sides in addressing issues relating to the improved application of agricultural pesticides.

The Spray Application Unit is now involved with many aspects of pesticide application and particularly those associated with the improved management of spray drift. Combinations of field experiments, wind tunnel studies and mathematical modelling approaches are being used to both review how existing techniques can most effectively be used and to establish a basis for the development and appraisal of new application methods.

Recognising the importance of keeping both staff and equipment up-to-date and with support from the



Field measurements of spray drift at Silsoe

Douglas Bomford Trust, staff at the Spray Application Unit have been working with Oxford Lasers Ltd in the development of a new spray analyser with an improved method of measuring the velocity distributions as well as the sizes of droplets within a spray. This was recently demonstrated measuring the characteristics of spray being detrained by the action of wind on a standard boom arrangement operating in a wind tunnel.

Other successes

There is quite a variety of other activities involving ex-SRI people. Among them, our Secretary-General, Dave Tinker, set up in business to continue his interest in research on meat hygiene.

Others at the SRI site include:

Silsoe-Birmingham Research a joint venture between former SRI environment group members, including Adam Robertson and Roger Hoxey and the University of Birmingham, Department of Civil Engineering

Solutions for Research Ltd formed by brothers John and Pete Richards to provide mechanical and electronic expertise for R&D projects

Silsoe Odours Ltd established by Robert Sneath to continue the odour measurement service

Silsoe Technology Ltd with John Reed and Simon Miles providing innovative engineering and automation for food and other sectors

Tillett and Hague Technology Ltd Nick Tillett and Tony Hague continuing their particular expertise in precision guidance with a broader interests in automation and control

Silsoe Livestock Systems Ltd where Jeff Lines and Paddy Schofield undertake livestock welfare and performance related research projects.

If you are interested in the work of this group of people, please browse the various research themes on the web site www.silsoeresearch.org.uk for the most appropriate contact, or use the search facility provided. To contact known former staff members directly there is a section on contacting staff which forwards emails to current addresses.

37 PhD posts in engineering, agricultural and natural sciences

The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Aarhus, Denmark, is looking for a number of bright and enthusiastic people with a good Master's degree in relevant natural science, agricultural or engineering disciplines to fill 37 positions for PhD students. The students will be paid a salary of approx 3000euro per month while completing the three-year PhD education,

which mainly consists of PhD courses (about six months) and a project. The positions are expected to be partially funded by a grant from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation.

You can read about the individual PhD positions at www.agrsci.org/content/view/full/33644

AgEng2007/LAND.TECHNIK Conference and AGRITECHNICA Engineering Fair

Engineering Solutions for Energy and Food Production

Hanover, Germany
9-13 November 2007



AgEng2007 will be a special event held jointly with the 65th LAND.TECHNIK conference. It will take place in Hanover, Germany on 9-10 November 2007, and will be the opening event of AGRITECHNICA 2007, the important agricultural machinery fair. The conference programme has been developed by a committee of members of the Max-Eyth-Society for Agricultural Engineering of the VDI (VDI-MEG) and the European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng).

By holding the conference immediately before the fair, the organisers will be catering for engineers from universities and research institutes as well as from industry. It is also aimed at engineers in consultancy and practice who are interested in new technical concepts, processes, products, engineering work methods and the exchange of knowledge and information.

A significant increase in the number of submitted papers clearly indicates the positive response to the new concept. Consequently the number of presentations has been increased from 64 to 80, organised in four parallel sessions. Another innovation is that for the first time the conference language will be English.

The main topics of the conference have been chosen to be closely connected with those of Agritechnica and are

- Tractors
- Mobile hydraulics

- Electronic and automation technology
- Soil protection, tillage and cultivation
- Crop protection and fertilisation
- Harvesting technology
- Bio-energy
- Field robotics
- Industrial product development

AGRITECHNICA Fair

The international DLG Exhibition for Agricultural Machinery, Agritechnica 2007, will be held at the Exhibition Grounds in Hanover 13-17 November 2007. There will be Preview Days on 11-12 November.

Exklusivtageskarte PLUS tickets for AGRITECHNICA, which will be valid on 11-13 November 2007 will be available to conference participants during the breaks at the price of EUR 50 (normal price EUR 69).

Conference website

www.vdi.de/land.technik-ageng2007

Contact

VDI Wissensforum IWB GmbH
Postfach 10 11 39,
40002 Dusseldorf, Germany
Tel: +49 (0) 211 62 14-201
Fax: +49 (0) 211 62 14-154
Email: wissensforum@vdi.de

More to come

Planning for AgEng conferences starts well ahead of the event. Elsewhere in this newsletter are details of [AgEng2007](#) (Hanover, Germany) and [AgEng2008](#) (Crete). After that, [AgEng2010](#) will take place in Clermont-Ferrand in central France and will be organised by

CEMAGREF. The conference will focus on environmental technologies in agrosystems. Bids have been sought to hold the AgEng conference in 2012, and the result will be announced in November this year at the Council meeting in Hanover.

Do you need staff?

If you look at the EurAgEng web site <www.eurageng.net> you will see a section **Jobs**. We have had several advertisements on the site, generating income for the Society. Next time you are recruiting staff, please consider placing an advertisement with us on the web. It does not cost much and it reaches a very wide and appropriate audience. Also, it can be arranged very quickly. Contact Mike Hurst at <web@eurageng.net> if you are interested.



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