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Congratulations on the launch of IJABE

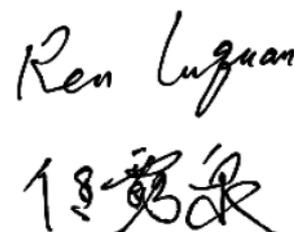
Ren Luquan

The launch of the International Journal of Agricultural & Biological Engineering (IJABE) is a historical event for agricultural and biological engineers in China and the world. I sincerely wish IJABE to bring domestic Chinese and overseas Chinese research community together to promote the advancement of research in agricultural and biological engineering.

In early years, the traditional concept of “agricultural engineering” may mainly mean the use of machinery and equipment in agricultural production. Nowadays, such a concept has been greatly expanded to include many areas, such as agricultural system engineering, agricultural energy management and utilization, agricultural product and food process engineering, bio-environmental engineering, agricultural land and water management, and so on. In the last few decades, we have seen the applications of almost all new technologies in agricultural production, such as electrical and electronics technologies, artificial intelligence, aviation and remote control, computer aided systems to name just a few. The applications of such new technologies have greatly increased agricultural output and significantly improved the quality of agricultural products.

China has less than 10% of the total farmland of the world, but produces agricultural products to feed one fifth of the world population. Scientific research in agriculture and agricultural engineering has made significant contributions to such a great achievement. As the trend of urbanization continues, further reduction of farmland is unavoidable. In the last few years, we have witnessed the global grain price rise. With the limited natural resources and increasing world population, human beings are facing huge challenges to produce enough food, but meanwhile to conserve our natural resources and protect our environment for the sustainable development of agriculture. The only solution to such great challenges has to be increased input to scientific research. Scientists and engineers in agricultural and biological engineering must bear the responsibility to develop new and innovative technologies for agricultural production.

I believe that IJABE will provide a great communication platform for scientists and engineers to present their latest research results concerning agricultural and biological engineering and the applications of new bio-agricultural engineering technologies in all areas of agriculture. I wish IJABE all the success.

The image shows two handwritten signatures. The top one is in English, 'Ren Luquan', written in a cursive, black ink. The bottom one is in Chinese characters, '任路权', also written in a cursive, black ink.

Ren Luquan
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