Summarized Minutes of International Symposium on Safety Management, Inspection and Traceability Technology for Agro-product Quality, together with The Second IFIP International Conference on Computer and Computing Technologies in Agriculture Beijing, China, October 18-20, 2008

The International Symposium on Safety Management, Inspection and Traceability Technology for Agro-product Quality (SMITA), together with The Second IFIP International Conference on Computer and Computing Technologies in Agriculture (CCTA) was convened in Beijing on October 18-20, 2008.

Int J Agric & Biol Eng

The conference was co-organized by China Agricultural University, National Engineering Research Center for Information Technology in Agriculture (NERCITA), Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering, International Federation for Information Processing, Beijing Society for Information Technology Agriculture and Beijing Research Center for Agrifood Testing and Farmland Monitoring. More than 300 participants, coming from China, Holland, Spain, Portugal, Germany, France, Greece, Estonia, Australia, Japan, Korea, India, Iran, Nigeria, Brazil, Mexico, etc. attended the conference. Prof. Gerrit van Straten of Wageningen University of Netherlands. the editor-in-chief of Computers and Electronics in Agriculture, was invited to participate in the conference.

The chairman of the conference is Prof. Wang Maohua, academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering and professor of China Agricultural University. The Chairmen of organizing committee are Dr. Li Daoliang, professor of China Agricultural University, and Dr. Zhao Chunjiang, Prof and director of

National Engineering Research Center for Information Technology in Agriculture (NERCITA). The conference topics covered the application and innovation of the theory, techniques and methods about computers and computing technology in agriculture, as well as strategies and techniques of management, inspection traceability of agricultural product quality & safety. More than 500 academic papers had been received by SMITA and CCTA. Four academic proceedings were and will be published, including 15 English papers published by a special issue of Computers and Electronics in Agriculture, 242 English papers by IFIP series in Springer IFIP, U.S., 62 Chinese papers published by the Publishing House of Electronics Industry of China as conference proceedings and 55 papers published by the Supplementary issue No.2 (2008) of the Transactions of the Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (Vol.24). All the 55 papers published in Transactions of the CSAE have been indexed by Engineering Index, which can be found at http://www.tcsae.org.

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Summarized Minutes of International Seminar on Biomass Energy: Opportunity and Challenge, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China, December 7-8, 2008

International Seminar on Biomass Energy: Opportunity and Challenge & the 4th SJTU-CU International Workshop on Biotechnology and Modern Agriculture, jointly organized by Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China) and Cornell University (USA), bringing together more than 70 experts from 9 countries on bioenergy, was held in Shanghai Jiao Tong University within December 7-8, 2008. The international seminar

was chaired by Dr Ronghou Liu, Professor and Director of Biomass Energy Engineering Research Centre, School of Agriculture and Biology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. The honorable guests participating in this international seminar included Yawu Wang, vice director of Division of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, China, Shaohua Li, director of Division

of Energy and Ecology, Development of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, China, Guoqing Fu, director of Department of International Cooperation, Science and Technology Commission of Shanghai Municipality, Norman R Scott, Academician of Engineering of USA, professor and former vice president of Cornell University, USA, Maohua Wang, Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering, Professor of China Agricultural University, China, Chuangzhi Wu, professor and director of Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Bailiang Zhang, professor and former president of Henan Agricultural University, China, Zhenhong secretary-general of Chinese Biomass Energy Center, professor of Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Erik Dahlquist, professor of Malrdalen University, Sweden, Jie Yin, professor and vice president of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, Pei Zhou, professor and vice director of Division of Science and Technology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, Xiaoming Dong, secretary of the Party committee, School of Agriculture and Biology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, Kexuan Tang, professor and dean of School of Agriculture and Biology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, and Yan Yu, professor and vice dean of School of Agriculture and Biology, Shanghai Jiao Tong

University, China.

Keynote speakers included Norman R Scott, Professor and former vice president for Research of Cornell University, USA, Chuangzhi Wu, Professor and director of Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, China, Bill A Stout, Professor of Texas A & M University and Honorary President of CIGR, USA, Erik Dahlquist, Professor of Malardalen University, Sweden, Bailiang Zhang, Professor and former president of Henan Agricultural University, China, Seong Gu Hong, Professor of Hankyong National University, South Korea, and Dehua Liu, Professor of Tsinghua University, China.

The theme of this international seminar is Biomass Energy: Opportunity and Challenge. The topics are as follows: 1) assessment of the availability of biomass resources, 2) biomass conversion technologies (thermochemical conversion, biological conversion and biodiesel fuel production), 3) techno-economic analysis and policy (techno-economic analysis of the process of biomass conversion and national policies, national biomass action plans and gaps in legislation, etc.).

Dr Liu Ronghou
Division Editor of Renewable Energy System of IJABE
Professor and Director
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Minutes of International Workshop on Agricultural Machine Automated Navigation Key Technology Guangzhou, China on November 3-4, 2008

International workshop on Agricultural Machine Automated Navigation Key Technology was held at South China Agricultural University in Guangzhou City on November 3-4, 2008. The workshop was organized by the College of Engineering of South China Agricultural University, and the Key Laboratory of Key Technology on Agricultural Machine and Equipment (South China Agricultural University), Ministry of Education, P.R. China. More than forty experts from U.S.A, Russia, Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Belgium, Greece, Japan, Korea and China attended the workshop. The topics of the workshop focused on:

Agriculture Automation and Auto-guidance; Robotic Controls on Machinery; Intelligent Machinery Technology; Precision Farming and Automation

On the workshop, the participators exchanged and discussed the new progress of the development trend in agricultural machine automated navigation field.

During the workshop, the participators visited the automatic guidance system of rice transplanter, rice harvester with yield sensor and GPS positioning system, laser lever for paddy field and rice dill direct planting machine developed by the Key Laboratory of Key Technology on Agricultural Machine and Equipment.

The workshop provided the exchange platform for the researchers all over the world to share the new progress of agricultural machine automated navigation field. It is helpful to enhance the communication and cooperation between China and foreign countries and promote the research on agricultural machine automated navigation in China.

Prof. Luo Xiwen
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South China Agricultural University