About Conference

Soil as well as water quality is very important to attain maximum agricultural production. However, plants can face a number of environmental problems including drought stress in diverse agriculture systems. Plants like cereals, legumes, forages, herbs, vegetables, medicinal and oil seed crops required a specific amount of water from seed germination to yield production. Consequently, reduction in plant growth and yield usually occurs against water shortage. With increasing aridity and a growing population, water in the near future will become a scarcer commodity in the third world countries like Pakistan. It is well evident that shortage of water supply to plants commonly induces:

- Turgor imbalance
- Protoplasmic alterations
- Dormancy
- Nutritional imbalance
- Osmotic stress
- Hormonal imbalance
- Altered expression of a complex array of genes
- Suppression in plant growth and development

A number of approaches have been adopted to improve the stress tolerance in plants including:

1. Biotic approaches
   - Screening and selection
   - Conventional breeding
   - Shotgun approaches
   - Seed priming
   - Conditioning in rooting medium
   - Foliar spray

2. Molecular approaches
   - Molecular marker-assisted selection
   - Genetic modifications

During the conference, the gathering of students, teachers, researchers, experts and economists will not only explore the problems faced in Pakistan but also by other countries. Further, it will provide solutions for water saving, sustainable crop production as well as to get optimum plant growth and yield production under drought prone areas. The Department of Botany, Government College University, Faisalabad, Pakistan as a part of the
global agricultural community will join hands with the international community to sustain the plant growth and yield production against dry land areas.

Aims and Objectives
- Geographic expedition of major drought prone areas at global level.
- Latest water scarcity level for agriculture.
- Quality of water used for irrigation.
- Identification of plants water saving strategies.
- Identification of vital physio-chemical markers for the adaptations/tolerance under drought stress.
- Awareness about the conventional and non-conventional crop plants suitable for dry land agriculture.
- Development of drought tolerant transgenic plants, their cultivation and limitations.
- Uplifting the knowledge of students, teachers, scientists and general public about the drought.
- Active participation of students, teachers and general public for the awareness, sustainability and protection of water.
- Recommendations about testing of transgenic crops under field conditions.
- Helping farmers to bring barren land under cultivation.
- Way out to meet global food demands with less water.

Areas Covered
1. Drought Stress
2. Smart Irrigation Strategies
3. Limited Water Regimes
4. Quality of Water used for Irrigation
5. Global Climate Change
6. Climatic Impact on Water
7. Drought Tolerance Strategies
8. Modern Techniques in Agriculture
9. Plant Breeding and Genetics
10. Soil Characteristics and Fertility with Respect to Water

Venue: Quid-i-Azam Auditorium, New Campus, Government College University, Faisalabad, Pakistan

Schedule for abstracts and full papers
Last date for abstracts submission is 15th January, 2019. Acceptance of abstracts will be communicated by 30th January, 2019. Authors of accepted abstracts must submit full length papers by 28th February, 2019.

Abstract format
- Abstracts should be submitted as Microsoft Word for Windows documents.
- The abstract should be saved with the filename "WSPPS-author’s surname".
- Abstracts should be submitted through email as an attachment to nudrataauaf@yahoo.com or iqbaluaf@yahoo.com
- The subject line of the email MUST be "WSPPS-author surname".
- Abstracts will not be accepted by fax or hard copy.

Format of presentations
The authors of the accepted abstracts will have to submit their presentations up to 15th March, 2019. The presentations should be made in Microsoft PowerPoint with a font of 18 point Times New Roman and not more than 10 lines per slide. The tables and figures should also be legible.

Proceedings
All papers will be peer-reviewed by independent reviewers. The accepted papers will be published in a special issue of a well reputed IF bearing Journal.

How to Register?
Complete the registration form and email it to Dr. Nudrat Aisha Akram up to 15th March, 2019. Late applications will not be entertained. Registration fee for local participants is Rs. 1000/- for student, Rs. 1500/- for teachers/researchers, 100 US$ for senior international participants and 50 US$ for international students.

About Govt. College University, Faisalabad, Pakistan
Faisalabad is the third largest city in Pakistan with a population of about four million. It is known for its textile industry and called as "Manchester of Asia". It not only offers educational and industrial degrees in various disciplines, but is also a hub of educational, social and cultural activities. There are a number of world renowned research institutions in the city namely; National Institute for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering (NIBGE), Nuclear Institute for Agriculture and Biology (NIAB), University of Agriculture (UAF) and the Ayub Agricultural Research Institute (AARI). Government College University Faisalabad is ranked among the top seven the largest general public sector universities in Pakistan.

How to reach Faisalabad
Faisalabad is very well connected by air and road with other cities in Pakistan. The daily flights are operating between Faisalabad (Airport known as Lyallpur) and Karachi. One can also take international flight for Lahore or Islamabad which are at a motorway drive of 2½ and 3½ hours respectively from Faisalabad.

Travel
Participants are required to arrange for international travel from their own Institutions/Governments. Local hospitality such as boarding/lodging and transport will be provided by the organizing committee.

Visa
Every participant should make his/her own arrangement for receiving the Pakistani visa by contacting the Pakistani Embassies and Consulates in their home countries. If needed, the organizers will send them official letters confirming their participation at the Conference.

Weather
During March, the weather is slightly cold with day and night temperature 25-30 and 10-15 °C respectively. Please take with you comfortable clothes.

Contacts
Dr. Nudrat Aisha Akram (Conference Secretary)
Assistant Professor Department of Botany, Government College University, Faisalabad.
Phone: +92-41-9203024; Mobile: +92-322-8780051
E-mail: nudrataauaf@yahoo.com

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal (Conference Organizer)
Chairman, Department of Botany, Government College University, Faisalabad.
Phone: +92-41-9203024; Mobile: +92-331-9700618
E-mail: iqbaluaf@yahoo.com

REGISTRATION FORM
Please fill in the following form and send via email as an attachment to Dr. Nudrat Aisha Akram (nudrataauaf@yahoo.com) or Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal (iqbaluaf@yahoo.com).

Personal Information
Name:
Address:
Organization:
E-mail:
Phone:
Fax:
Title of paper:
Arrival: (Please provide date and time of your arrival in Faisalabad)
Date:
Time:
Place of Arrival:

Accommodation Required:
☐ No  ☐ Yes
If yes, how many nights you will be staying

Type of Participation:
☐ Local Participant ☐ Student
☐ Accompanying Guest ☐ Foreign Participant
☐ Foreign Student ☐ Foreign Accompanying Guest

Special Request: