

José Dörner

Dear Friends, the present ISTRO INFO informs of the different board positions we need to fill during the next months. Do not hesitate to send an email to Lars or me, if you are interested being a board member.

We also include relevant information regarding Scholarship to attend and present at 22<sup>nd</sup> ISTRO International Conference “Living Roots, Living Soil”. We encourage all young researcher to apply to the scholarships.

Additionally, in the present ISTRO INFO we inform about ISTRO members discount for publishing in Soil and Tillage Research as well as new books, and several meetings and events during 2023 and 2024. We invite all ISTRO Members to send us relevant information to be included in the next Newsletters.

## ⌘ Nominations for President-elect

The opportunity to host the 2030 ISTRO conference is now open. As members may already be aware of, the main ISTRO conference is held every 3 years. The 22<sup>nd</sup> conference will be held in Virginia, USA in 2024 and the 23<sup>rd</sup> will be held in Nigeria in 2027. Those interested in holding the 24<sup>th</sup> conference in 2030 should nominate for ISTRO President-elect (and thus serve on the ISTRO board). In the first instance, they should contact Secretary-General Lars J. Munkholm ([lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk](mailto:lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk)) or Assistant Secretary-General José Dörner ([josedorner@uach.cl](mailto:josedorner@uach.cl)) on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, to discuss their interest.

## ⌘ Nominations for Treasure-elect

The Treasure-elect position will be vacant after the 2024 conference in Virginia Beach. The Treasurer-elect will assist the Treasurer for a period of three years between the 2024 and 2027 Triennial meetings and then assume the role of Treasurer for a period not to exceed three consecutive terms of office (nine years) provided the Treasurer is approved for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> term through acclamation by a majority of members casting ballots in the pre-conference election. According to the ISTRO Constitution the Treasurer shall collect and disburse the assets of the Organisation and shall be responsible for the Organisation's accounts. The

Treasurer-elect must be able to operate accounts in a major international currency. Nominations are being accepted from all ISTRO members in good standing.

If a member wishes to nominate a colleague or even themselves, please send the name, a brief biographical statement outlining the candidate's qualifications for the Treasure-elect position, and an affirmation that the candidate is willing to be on the ballot and to serve if elected to Secretary General Lars J. Munkholm on or before October 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. Please use the email address [lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk](mailto:lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk) for this communication.

## ⌘ Nominations for Board positions

Nominations for minimum two and maximum three Board positions of 6 years and are now being accepted from all ISTRO members in good standing. We aim at a good geographical spread and a gender balance. The current ISTRO Board has a good geographical spread but a poor gender balance (2 out of 11 members are female). Therefore, we strongly encourage our female members to consider this opportunity.

As for the Treasure-elect Position, if a member wishes to nominate a colleague or even themselves, please send the name, a brief biographical statement outlining the candidate's qualifications and an affirmation that the candidate is willing to be on the ballot and to serve if elected to Secretary General Lars J. Munkholm on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Please use the email address [lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk](mailto:lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk) for this communication. Depending upon the number of nominations received, the current ISTRO Board members will identify six potential Board candidates. A ballot will be prepared and distributed to members in good standing around November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. ISTRO members elected to these positions will assume their new positions following the 22<sup>nd</sup> Triennial Conference in Virginia Beach, USA in September 2024. If two or fewer nominations are received, a ballot will not be required.

General requirements for Board members are to serve for a period of 6 years (2024–2030), to be available to attend pre- and post-conference Board meetings (held at the triennial conference) as well as a mid-congress Board meeting at the location of the

2027 and 2030 Triennial conference sites, to serve in various liaison positions to ISTRO Branch and/or Working Groups, and to actively participate in discussions and email exchanges associated with ISTRO business. Although funds for travel to ISTRO Board meetings are available (but not the triennial conference), it really helps the Organization if the candidate has some mechanism to help cover a portion of their travel expenses so that ISTRO dues can remain at their very modest level.

If you have any questions about any of these opportunities, please contact Lars J. Munkholm ([lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk](mailto:lars.munkholm@agro.au.dk)) or José Dörner ([josedorner@uach.cl](mailto:josedorner@uach.cl)).

## ☞ ISTRO 2024 “Living Roots, Living Soil”



Scholarship to attend and present at [22<sup>nd</sup> ISTRO International Conference “Living Roots, Living Soil”](#), Virginia Beach, USA.

ISTRO promotes engagement among scientists working with and researching soil tillage, field traffic and their relationship with soil, environment, land use and crop production. The conference is the opportunity for the community to meet each other, share their research, see application in practice and to stimulate new ideas. The theme of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ISTRO International Conference is ‘Living Roots, Living Soil.’ It will run from 23-28 September 2024 in Virginia Beach, VA, USA.

### Funding supports

ISTRO offers financial support to support attendance at its international conferences. The following scholarships and supports are available:

1. 1 x \$2000 Cees van Ouwkerk Scholarship, open to young researchers from any country (under 40 on 1st January 2024).
2. 1 x \$1500 Elsevier Scholarship, open to young researchers from any country (under 40 on 1st January 2024).
3. 20 x \$1500 ISTRO Scholarships open to researchers in the following categories:
  - a. At least 8 scholarships for young researchers EXCLUDING those based in high-income countries (under 40 on 1st January 2024)(high-income countries can be found at <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519>)
  - b. At least 8 scholarships for research graduate students (normally doctoral students) currently fully enrolled in a university or equivalent degree awarding institution (any age, any country)
  - c. Up to 4 scholarships for young researchers from any country (under 40 on 1st January 2024).

The scholarship will pay for the conference registration fees and 5 nights in the conference hotel.

Awardees will be selected based on:

- (1) Academic merit;
- (2) Geographical spread (maximum 2 awardees per country).

Eligibility criteria:

- An applicant must be an ISTRO member. Non-members should join ISTRO before applying, otherwise their application will not be considered.
- An applicant must have reasonable expectation of being able to travel to USA in September 2024

- Applicants should have a letter of support from their Departmental Chair/Head of Department/equivalent senior manager stating that the funds will be available to enable travel to the USA and to cover necessary subsistence costs for the duration of the conference.

Potential applicants with access to sufficient finances to attend the conference (e.g., fully funded PhD students or post-docs, faculty with personal allowances, etc.) should not apply for these scholarships.

### To apply:

Applicants should provide a letter of motivation also documenting their current circumstances and position, attaching elements that will allow their application to be evaluated by a committee of ISTRO Board members (e.g. recent journal or conference publications, a curriculum vitae listing education, activities and outputs, and the abstract for a paper to be presented at the 2024 ISTRO Conference) and a letter confirming the necessary finances are available to attend the conference. These documents must be submitted by e-mail to the Assistant Secretary-General (José Dörner, [josedorner@uach.cl](mailto:josedorner@uach.cl)) and to the chair of the evaluation committee (Nick Holden, [nick.holden@ucd.ie](mailto:nick.holden@ucd.ie)) by October 31, 2023.

### ⌘ Members discount for publishing in Soil and Tillage Research

ISTRO has strengthened the collaboration with Elsevier on Soil and Tillage Research, which is affiliated to ISTRO as you probably know. We are happy to announce a 20% APC (article processing cost) discount off Open Access for ISTRO members. This was initiated on 1st June 2023. As an author you simply enter your membership details during the completion of the rights and access form at acceptance of your article.

## ⌘ Upcoming Meetings and Events

2023

### July-December

#### July

28th IUGG General Assembly. 11-20 July 2023 Berlin, Germany. Webpage:

<https://www.iugg2023berlin.org/>

XXIII Latin-American Congress of Soil Sciences (XXIII CLACS). Sunday, 30. July 2023 to Friday, 4. August 2023. Location: Florianópolis, Brasil. Webpage:

<https://www.slcs.org.mx/>

#### August

Wageningen Soil Conference 2023 – working together on solutions for a sustainable world. Tuesday, 29. August 2023 to Friday, 1. September 2023. Wageningen, the Netherlands. Deadline for abstracts: April 17, 2023. Webpage:

<https://wageningensoilconference.eu/2023/>

#### September

SUITMA 12 Conference. Monday, 4. September 2023 to Thursday, 7. September 2023. Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Abstract submission: 15 March 2023. Early bird registration: 15 May 2023. Webpage: <https://www.suitma12.com/>

1st International Scientific Conference „Agricultural Challenges to Climate Change“. Tuesday, 19. September 2023 to Friday, 22. 2023. Contributions should be sent electronically to the e-mail address: [agriclimate@fazos.hr](mailto:agriclimate@fazos.hr) by 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 at the latest. Webpage: <https://fazos.hr/~agriclimate/>

2024

### January-December

ISTRO Conference. Location: Virginia Tech, Virginia, USA. Date have not been settled yet. More information soon in <https://istro.org/>

#### May

Centennial Celebration and Congress of the IUSS 100 years of soil science - past achievements and future challenges. Sunday, 19. May 2024 to Tuesday, 21. May 2024. Location: Florence, Italy. Webpage: <https://centennialiuuss2024.org/>

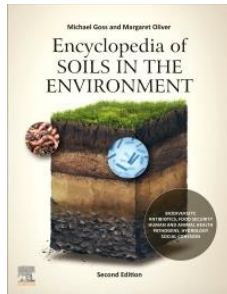
## October

ISMOM 2024 - 9th International Symposium of Interactions of Soil Minerals with Organic Components and Microorganisms. Thursday, 10. October 2024 to Monday, 14. October 2024. Tsukuba, Japan. Webpage: <http://web.agr.ehime-u.ac.jp/~soil/ISMOM2024.html>

## ☞ New Books

### Encyclopedia of Soils in the Environment

Editor: Michael Goss, Margaret Oliver.



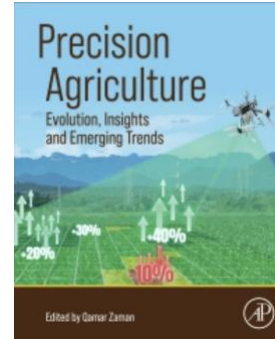
Encyclopedia of Soils in the Environment, Second Edition, Four Volume Set updates and expands the previous version, in four volumes, to ensure coverage of topics relevant to current world problems such as population pressure, food security and global change.

This reference work covers the entire field of soil science, bridging the gap between basic science and applications, and is designed to serve students and expert researchers. It is organized around four core topics, the main components of soil science – biology, chemistry, physics and environment and management.

More information on the following [Link](#).

### Precision Agriculture. Evolution, Insights and Emerging Trends

Editor: Qamar Zaman

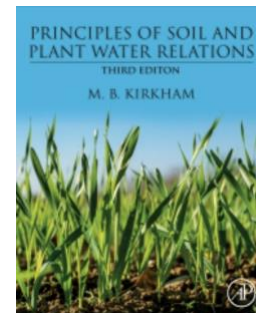


Precision Agriculture: Evolution, Insights and Emerging Trends presents a complete guide from foundational concepts to the economic, commercial and environmental implications of the approach. Showcasing recent research improvements, future trends, and highlighting innovative use of machine vision, artificial intelligence, UAVs, drones, IoT and data analytics to promote sustainable agriculture, the book brings the reader up-to-date with understanding and implementing this targeted practice.

More information on following this [Link](#).

### Principles of Soil and Plant Water Relations

Editor: M.B. Kirkham



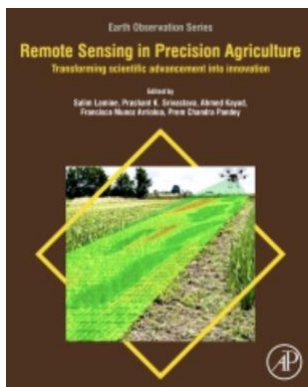
Principles of Soil and Plant Water Relations, Third Edition describes the fundamental principles of soil and water relationships in relation to water storage in soil and water uptake by plants. The book explains why it is important to know about soil-plant-water relations, with subsequent chapters providing the definition of all physical units and the SI system and dealing with the structure of water and its special properties. Final sections explain the structure of plants and the mechanisms behind their interrelationships, especially the mechanism of water uptake and water flow within plants and how to assess parameters.

All chapters begin with a brief paragraph about why the topic is important and include all formulas necessary to calculate respective parameters. This third edition includes a new chapter on water relations of plants and soils in space as well as textbook problems and answers.

**More information on following this [Link](#).**

## **Transforming Scientific Advancement into Innovation Remote Sensing in Precision Agriculture**

**Editors:** Salim Lamine, George Petropoulos, Prashant Srivastava, Ahmed Kayad, Francisco Munoz Arriola, Prem Pandey.



Remote Sensing in Precision Agriculture: Transforming Scientific Advancement into Innovation compiles the latest applications of remote sensing in agriculture using spaceborne, airborne and drones' geospatial data. The book presents case studies, new algorithms and the latest methods surrounding crop sown area estimation, determining crop health status, assessment of vegetation dynamics, crop diseases identification, crop yield estimation, soil properties, drone image analysis for crop damage assessment, and other issues in precision agriculture. This book is ideal for those seeking to explore and implement remote

sensing in an effective and efficient manner with its compendium of scientifically and technologically sound information.

**More information on following this [Link](#)**

ISTRO INFO is the newsletter of the **International Soil Tillage Research Organisation** ([www.istro.org](http://www.istro.org)).

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