



1st Announcement

The Fifth Symposium on Date Palm in Saudi Arabia

(Biotechnology in Date Palm)

Organized by

**Date Palm Research Center of Excellence
King Faisal University
Alahsa, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

29 Dhu Hijh 1434 to Moharam 1435H

3 - 5 November, 2013

Symposium website: www.5thpalm.org

The Fifth Symposium on Date Palm in Saudi Arabia (Biotechnology in Date Palm)

29 Dhu Hijh 1434 to 2 Moharam 1435H

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Introduction

The First Symposium on Date Palm in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was held at King Faisal University, Hofuf, on 28-30 Jumada I 1402H (23-25 March 1982). One of the important recommendations emerged was the establishment of a specialized scientific center fostering palms and date aspects. Accordingly, King Faisal University established the Date Palm Research Center in 1402H (1982) to provide research facilities and extension services related to date palm. Subsequently, the Date Palm Research Center organized the Second Symposium on Date Palm held on 22-25 Jumada II 1406H (3-6 March 1986) and the Third Symposium on Date Palm held on 24-27 Rajeb 1413H (17-20 January 1993) in accordance with the First Symposium recommendations. These Symposia had witnessed keen interests from researchers and farmers from all date palm growing regions on the local and international levels that contributed to their success. These Symposia have accomplished numerous achievements that have made positive impact on research efforts aimed at improving date palm production quantitatively and qualitatively. In keeping with this momentum under the continuous patronage bestowed upon agriculture in general especially and the blessed date palm tree by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, his Deputy Premier Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz, and their Supreme Government, in addition to the continuous concerns of the University to the date palm tree, the Date Palm Research Center in association with the Ministry of Agriculture is organizing the Fourth Symposium on Date Palm in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Challenges of Processing, Marketing, and Pests Control) to be held at King Faisal University, Hofuf. In view of this, the University represented by the Date Palm Research Center cordially invites all involved in date palm to participate in the Symposium for the positive role participants contributions would render.

Venue and Time

The functions of the Fifth Symposium on Date Palm in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be hosted on the main campus of King Faisal University on 29 Dhu Hijh 1434 to 2 Moharam 1435H Corresponding to 3-5 November, 2013 at the city of Hofuf, Alahasa District, in the Eastern Province of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Alahsa, which lies 110-150 m above sea level and 75 km west of the Arabian Gulf, is famous for the cultivation of unique high quality date cultivars and numerous natural water springs. The weather expected during the symposium is moderate with average temperatures of 26°-37°C approximately. The official currency in the Kingdom is Riyal with exchange rate of 3.75 Saudi Riyals equaling one American Dollar.

Arrival to the Symposium

Members of the Organizing Committee will meet participants at Alahsa Airport in Hofuf, King Fahad International Airport in Dammam, and King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh and they will arrange transportation to the Symposium venue at King Faisal University, Hofuf.

Symposium Languages

Arabic and English are the official languages of the symposium. Live translation will be available.

Program

- General lectures.
- Specialized sessions.
- Scientific posters.
- Discussion forums.
- Exhibition.
- Tours and social functions.

Symposium Topics

- Biotechnology in dates processing
- Biotechnology in date palm production and physiology
- Date palm biodiversity
- Biotechnology in date palm protection
- Economics of date Bio-products
- Economics of green, red and white biotechnology
- Prospects of date palm innovations and new technologies

Important Dates

Event	Date
• Beginning of abstract receiving	Open
• Deadline for abstracts submission	July 7, 2013
• Abstract acceptance notification	July 18, 2013
• Deadline for full papers submission	Aug 17, 2013
• Full paper acceptance notification	Aug 27, 2013

Instructions for Abstract Submission to the Fifth Symposium on Date Palm

Authors Names

Date Palm Research Center, King Faisal University, P.O. Box 400, Hofuf 31982,
Saudi Arabia (author@kfu.edu.sa)

An effective abstract should be coherent, concise, and informative. The objective of this example is to provide information for abstract preparation. Abstracts should contain clear objectives, brief materials and methods, main results, and conclusions. Abstract submission should be in both Arabic and English languages. Translation assistance will be provided for participants whose native language is other than Arabic. Text should be limited to 300 words using Times New Roman font and typed in one-singly-spaced paragraph according to this format. Title should be concise, reflective of the research nature, and written in bold font in the middle of A4 page. Please leave one line space then type the names of the authors. Leave one line space then type the authors' affiliation address. Leave one line space then begin the abstract text. Leave one line space then type the phrase key words followed by a colon then five alphabetized key words or phrases separated by commas typed in normal font. Scientific names should be italicized and not underlined. Please set page margins to 2.5 cm top and bottom, and 3.2 cm right and left. When writing in Arabic use font size 16 for title and 14 for the text. For English, use font size 14 for title and 12 for the text.

Key words: Abstract preparation instructions, Date palm, *Phoenix dactylifera*, Saudi Arabia, Symposium, Text format.

Full Paper Submission

The Scientific Committee cordially invites all presenters to submit full research papers for peer review and publication considerations. Manuscripts can be uploaded via the symposium website. Papers will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee with the assistant of specialized faculty members from inside and outside the University. Please follow the provided Author Instructions for Manuscript Preparation. The author of an accepted paper will receive a complimentary copy of the Symposium Proceedings and a number of reprints.

Authors Instructions for Full Paper Submission

➤ General Information

- Full-length research papers will be published in the Symposium Proceeding.
- Research manuscripts should describe original work that has not been previously published.
- Papers may be written in English or Arabic.
- Authors are requested to follow scientific writing rules and assure that manuscripts are free of grammar and spelling errors.
- Footnotes are to be avoided as much as possible.

- Use the Metric International System (SI) units. If other units have to be used, conversion factors into SI units should be shown in parentheses after each unit when first used. Concentrations of acids and bases should be expressed in terms of normality (N) and salts in molarity (M).
- Scientific (Latin) names of organisms should be italicized according to international Code of Nomenclature followed by the authority when first used. Other words of Latin origin such as *et al.* and *in vitro*, should also be italicized.
- Commonly accepted abbreviations such as: m, mm, cm, km, kg, mg, g, etc. are to be used whenever possible. Uncommon abbreviations must be fully identified in parentheses when first used.
- References mentioned in the text should be cited by author's name and year, e.g., Hussain (2002) or (Hussain 2002) according to the sentence structure. When citing a reference with two authors use both names (Hussain and Ahmed 2003) and for more than two authors use first author and others (Hussain *et al.* 2004). When citing more than one reference in one statement, references must be arranged in ascending chronological order and alphabetical order for similar years, e.g. (Taylor and Sesser 2000, Hussein 2002, Powell *et al.* 2005; Thomas, 2005).
- Research manuscripts should be arranged in well defined sections: Title, Authors byline including affiliation address and email, Abstract followed by key words, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion (or Results and Discussion), Acknowledgments (if any), References, Abstract in the alternative language (Arabic Abstract for English manuscripts; translation assistant is available).
- Papers will be accepted based on the importance, relevance, and merits. Papers will be subjected to referee processing by members of the Scientific Committee of the Symposium and specialized faculty members within and outside King Faisal University.
- Please send abstracts and full papers on behalf of the Scientific Committee for the Fifth Symposium on Date Palm via the following e-mail: 5thpalm@kfu.edu.sa. Please send additional copy to the following e-mail: seid@kfu.edu.sa

➤ **Manuscript Formatting**

- Microsoft Word program with at Times New Roman font should be used. Page size A4 paper (21 x 29.7 cm) should be selected and page margins set at 5.7 cm top, 5 cm bottom, and 4.3 cm left and right.
- For manuscripts submitted in English, the font size should be: Title 14 pt bold capital letters, Authors names 12 pt bold, Affiliation address 12 pt italic, and text 12 pt.
- Line spacing should be single and the page set to two columns separated by 1 cm distance and column width of 5.7 cm. Paragraphs should be indented two spaces and set at 6 pt after paragraph.

- Abstracts should be informative and reflective of the main contents and conclusions of the papers. Abstracts are limited to 300 words written in font 12 pt bold (for English Language). Five to seven key words are required following the abstract.
- Headings (Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion, Acknowledgments, References) should be capital letters 12 pt bold.
- Tables and figures must be clear and of high quality reproduction preferably with one column width (5.7 cm) and a maximum of 10 cm. Tables should be free of vertical lines and consist of only the three main horizontal lines.
- References should be listed in alphabetical order by senior author's last name followed by initials, then the second name starting with initials, year of publication, title of the papers, abbreviated journal name, volume number and pages. The second line is indented two spaces. Please see the following examples:

References

- Aleid, SM., Barber, AR., Rettke, M., Leo, N., Alsenaien, WA. and Sallam, AA. (2012). Utilization of modified atmosphere packaging to extend the shelf Life of Khalas fresh dates. *International Journal of Food Science & Technology*. 47(7): 1518-1525.
- Al-Khayri, J.M. 2005. Date palm *Phoenix dactylifera* L. In: S.M. Jain and P.K. Gupta (eds.) *Protocols of Somatic Embryogenesis in Woody Plants*. Springer, Berlin, pp. 309-318.

Instruction for Preparation and Presentation of Posters

- Available space per poster is 120 (tall) x 70 (wide) cm board.
- Content should consist of logically organized sections, i.e. title including authors' names and affiliation, abstract, introduction including objectives, materials and methods, results and discussion, conclusions, and literature cited.
- Readability can be enhanced using large, bold, simple fonts readable from 1 m distance. Recommended minimum final letter heights are 2.5 cm for title, 1.5 cm for headings, 1 cm for subheadings, and 0.5 cm for text.
- Illustrations should be of high quality magnification, appropriately numbered, and referred to within the text.
- A computer generated single-sheet colored poster is recommended.

➤ Exhibition

An Exhibition cover the areas of date palm agricultural machinery, dates cultivation, dates palm processing and date palm industry will be organized.

Travel and Accommodation

King Faisal University will cover the expenses of travel and accommodation for invited speakers.

Registration

Registration for participants or attendants in the Symposium is free of charge.

<p>Registration Form</p> <p>The Fifth Symposium on Date Palm in Saudi Arabia (Biotechnology in Date Palm)</p> <p>29 Dhu Hijh 1434 to 2 Moharam 1435H</p> <p>3-5 November, 2013</p>
<p>Registration will be through the website www.5thpalm.org</p> <p>or by completing following form and e-mail to 5thpalm@kfu.edu.sa</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name:• Profession:• Address:• Phone:• Fax:• E- mail:

Correspondence

Abstracts and full papers to be submitted to the Scientific Committee

Fifth Symposium on Date Palm

Date Palm Research Center of Excellence, King Faisal University

P.O. Box 400, Alahsa 31982

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Phone/Fax 966 (3) 5816630

Please send abstracts and full papers to the following e-mail: 5thpalm@kfu.edu.sa.

Please send additional copy to the following e-mail: seid@kfu.edu.sa

Website www.5thpalm.org