

***First INTERNATIONAL MEETING  
Genetic Resources of Date Palm: Status,  
Characterization and Management Challenges***

Djerba (Tunisia) April 15-17, 2013

***Registration Form***

Family Name:.....

First name:.....

Function:.....

Institution:.....

Address:.....

Oral presentation:

Poster:

Title:.....

.....

.....

.....

Email:.....

Phone and Fax:.....

A completed registration form must be received by 1 September, 2012. Mail to:

**Dr. Mohamed BEN SALAH**

**Arid Lands Institute**

**Nahal-6051 Gabes**

**Fax: (+) 216 75 228 088**

**Tel: (+) 216 75 227 325**

**E-mail:**

**bensalah\_mohamed@yahoo.com**

**REGISTRATION AND  
ACCOMODATION FEES**

200 DT (100 Euros): These costs include accommodation (full board) during the meeting, coffee breaks and book of meeting abstracts.

Ministry of Agriculture  
Arid Lands Institute



Aridology and Oases Crops  
Research Laboratory

**First INTERNATIONAL  
MEETING  
Genetic Resources  
of Date Palm:  
Status,  
Characterization  
and Management  
Challenges**

**Djerba (Tunisia) 15-17 April 2013**





## **PRESENTATION**

The oasis is a particular and unique ecosystem in the world. The genetic diversity of the date palm has emerged from a long process of natural evolution and patient selection by farmers. For millennia, the date palm has been dispersed in very diverse environments, well beyond its center of origin. Date palm has thus had to adapt progressively to different oases environments. This has led to the formation and expression of an important genetic diversity in the oases around the world. These genetic resources are an essential component of biodiversity and they represent a major challenge for research and development. The study of the genetic resources of the date palm, the identification of cultivars, their assessment and their conservation remains an urgent task. The purposes of this meeting are to review the efforts made to inventory and characterize this diverse heritage, using the biotechnologies available for its evaluation (such as molecular biology), and to make the necessary recommendations for its preservation and for better oasis management. Topics will also include the status of date palm biodiversity around the world and approaches followed by different research teams interested in genetic heritage.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Papers may be written in English or French. The registration fee and an abstract form of a maximum 100 words must be received before 1 September, 2012. The items received before 31 December, 2012 may be published in a special issue of the Journal *Revue des Regions Arides*.

## **THEMES**

Papers received and accepted will be presented and discussed in 3 sessions namely:

**Session 1:** State of date palm biodiversity across the countries of date palm cultivation.

**Session 2:** Approaches of inventories, characterization of the genetic resources of the date palm (field methods, biotechnology tools).

**Session 3:** Management and development of date palm genetic resources.

The sessions will begin with introductory lectures. Posters of each session will be summarized and presented by a facilitator.

## **LANGUAGE**

The working languages will be English and French.

## **PROVISIONAL SHCHEDULE**

14 April: Participants arrival  
15 April: 08.30 Registrations  
09.30 Official opening  
10.00 Introduction to the Conference  
11.00: Session 1  
16 April: 09.00: Session 2  
14.00: Session 3  
17.00 General discussion and recommendations  
18 00 Official closing  
Gala Dinner  
17 April: Morning: Optional tour field trip  
Afternoon: Free session  
Departure of participants

## **FIELD TRIP**

A half-day trip is scheduled to visit the natural date palms of Jerba Island and the pluvial agriculture areas (Zarziz olive plantations). This excursion will also visit some historic sites of Southern Tunisia



## **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

Pr. Houcine KHATTELI (Tunisia)  
Pr. Ali FERCHICHI (Tunisia)  
Pr. Ali ZOUBA (Tunisia)  
Pr. Nadia BOUGUEDOURA (Algeria)  
Pr. Med Aziz El HOUMAZI (Morocco)  
Pr. Mohamed BEN ISMAIL (Libya)  
Pr. Cherif Ali SHARABASY (Egypt)  
Dr. Glenn WRIGHT (USA)  
Dr. Dennis V. JOHNSON (USA)  
Dr. Mohamed BEN SALAH (Tunisia)  
Dr. Nouredine NASR (Tunisia)  
Dr. Salwa ZEHDY (Tunisia)  
Dr. Malika BENNACEUR (Algeria)  
Dr. Abderrahmane BEN KHLIFA (Algeria)  
Dr. Moulay Hassan SEDRA (Morocco)  
Dr. Vincent DOLLE (France)  
Dr. René LECOUSTRE (France)  
Dr. Claudio LITTARDI (Italia)  
Dr. Michel FERRY (Spain)  
Dr. Abdelaziz El HARTHI (Oman)  
Dr. Naceur El KHALIFA (Saudi Arabia)  
Dr. Jassem El JABOURI (Iraq)  
Dr. Ali El BOUKHARI (Mauritania)

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Mohamed BEN SALAH  
Rachid BOUKCHINA  
Mohamed Sadok BELKADHI  
Kamel NAGGAZ  
Mansour HADDAD  
Mohamed Ali BEN ABED  
Habib BAYOUDH  
Habib JEDER  
Ali AGREBI  
Mohamed LTIFI  
Mohamed CHOUIKHI  
Mehdi LOUHICHI  
Warda ATOUI  
Mohamed LATRACH  
Mabrouk LANOUAR