

2nd Soil Symposium: Soil amelioration – the circular way!

Date and Time

13th February 2024, 8:15 – 5:00 p.m. (EAT)

Place

ILRI campus, 2R87+GPC, "Azage Hall", Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Agenda

Time	Agenda	Speaker
8.15 a.m. – 8.45 a.m.	Meet and greet	
8.45 a.m.	Inaugural address	Dr. Sophia Kassa , State Minister for Agriculture and Investment Division, Ministry of Agriculture (solicited) Dr. Volker Lenz , Head of Department Thermo-chemical Conversion (DBFZ)
9.00 a.m. – 9.15 a.m.	Keynote: Biochar in Sustainable Soil Management	Prof. Sheleme Beyene , Professor of Soil Science, Hawassa University
9.15 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Keynote: The role of biochar and COMBI-mix on soil properties, crop yield and carbon sequestration in tropical agricultural soils	Dr. Getachew Agegnehu , Researcher, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
Research within the 1st ETH-Soil Call		
9.30 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Biochar based organic-fertilizers	Dr. Milkiyas Ahmed , Assistant Professor of soil fertility and agronomy, Jimma University
9.45 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Evaluation of biochar-treated amendments for their agronomic effectiveness in acidic soils: Production process and quality	Dr. Yackob Alemayehu , Assistant Professor of Soil Science, Dilla University
10.00 a.m. – 10.15 a.m.	Smallholder farmers involved preparation and evaluation of biochar-based fertilizers	Mr. Wondimu Tamrat , Assistant Professor of Agronomy, Wachemo University
10.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Integrated use of coffee husk biochar and vermicompost on smallholder farms	Dr. Shimelis Gizachew , Assistant Professor, Hawassa University
10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Co-application of biochar and digestate in highly degraded acidic soils: Effect on crop production, soil quality, and nutrient uptake	Dr. Abebe Nigussie , Associate Professor of soil science, Jimma University
10.45 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.	Integrated effect of Biochar and Bio-slurry compost with NP Fertilizers on soil physico-chemical properties, climate change mitigation, yield components and yield of Sorghum	Mr. Tilahun Abera , Researcher, Batu Soil Research Center, Oromia Agricultural Research Institute
11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Break	

Call for papers – Best presentation award

11.30 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.	Aggregate size distribution, labile carbon fractions and litter decomposition after long-term application of biochar-based soil amendments in low-input acidic soils	Mr. Getachew Mulatu , Researcher, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, Jimma Agricultural Research Center
11.45 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	Co-composting of biochar and humanure: a new path in improving soil quality and sustainable crop production	Prof. Fantaw Yimer , Lecturer at Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources, Hawassa University
12.00 p.m. – 12.15 p.m.	Optimizing Soil Health and Agricultural Productivity with Biochar based Indigenous Organic Fertilizers in Acidic Soils: Insights from Northwestern Ethiopia	Mr. Ewunetu Tazebew , Researcher, University of Gondar
12:15 p.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Effect of biochar, farmyard manure, and lime on soil properties, and on growth and nutrient uptake of wheat on acidic soils in Southern Ethiopia	Dr. Mekdes Lulu , Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Wachemo University (presented by Dr. Bekele Lemma , Associate Professor of Soil Science, Hawassa University)
12.30 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Lunch Break	

Winning proposals within the 2nd ETH-Soil call

2.00 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.	Farmers Participatory Biochar Production, Nutrient Loading, Characterization, and Evaluation	Dr. Fanuel Laekemariam , Associate Professor of soil science, Wolaita Sodo Univeristy
2.15 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	Blending bioslurry with biochar: Effects on crop production, soil fertility and nutrient loss along varying soil types	Dr. Esubalew Getachew , Assistance Professor of agronomy / horticulture, Jimma University
2.30 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.	Biochar Based Fertilizer: Challenge and Opportunity for Widespread Uptake of the Technology by Ethiopian Small-scale Farmers for Increased Grain Productivity	Dr. Ashenafi Nigussie , Researcher, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research / Wondo Genet Agricultural Research Center
2.45 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Participatory Evaluation of Biochar-Based Biofertilizers on Smallholder Farms	Dr. Yackob Alemayehu , Assistant Professor of Soil Science, Dilla University
3:00 p.m. 3:30 p.m.	Coffee break	

Field experiences regarding biochar and biofertilizer production

3.30 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.	Practical experience with the implementation of EBC-Artisan in rural Africa.	Mr. Simon Lotz , Research Assistant, Ithaka Institute
3.45 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.	The effect of solid and liquid bioslurry on soil fertility and crop productivity	Mr. Zelalem Addis , Soil fertility researcher, Adet Agricultural Research Center
4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Closing session and Best Presentation Award	Ms. Kerstin Wilde , DBFZ Dr. Getachew Eshete Beyene , ETH-Soil Project Coordinator (DBFZ / GIZ InS)
5:00 p.m.	Closing of the Soil symposium	