



Ministry of Presidential Affairs



14 – 16 March 2022



جائزة خليفة الدولية لنخيل التمر والابتكار الزراعي
KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR DATE PALM
AND AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation

in collaboration with
UAE University
organize

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL DATE PALM CONFERENCE

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT



Emirates Palace Hotel, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
14 – 16 March, 2022
(Save the date!)



جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
United Arab Emirates University



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE
& ENVIRONMENT

الأمن الغذائي
FOOD SECURITY



Table of Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Objectives
- III. Conference Theme
- IV. Conference Co-organizers
- V. Conference Special Features
- VI. Duration & Venue
- VII. Conference Topics
- VIII. Who Should Attend
- IX. Booths
- X. Conference Committees
- XI. Conference Language
- XII. Post Conference Tours
- XIII. Conference Sponsors
- XIV. Host Country
- XV. Conveyors
 - Abstracts and Proceedings
 - Registration Form
 - Abstract Form

I. Introduction

Under the leadership of H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, “May God protect him”, there are continual efforts to increase UAE date palm productivity, to make better use of the date palm industry and to produce an agricultural leap that will change the face of the UAE desert. Indeed, the Seventh International Date Palm Conference illustrates the special attention and priority given by His Highness to this important economic sector. The present conference is the seventh one in a series of international conferences organized by UAE during the last 24 years (08 –10 March, 1998, 25 – 27 March, 2001, 19 – 21 February 2006, 15 – 17 March, 2010, 16 – 18 March, 2014 and 19 – 21 March, 2018). Date palm scientists, experts, and senior officials from around the world will be able to exchange their know-how and experiences. The Honorable Ministers of Agriculture of the GCC member states and other date growing countries will be invited to attend the conference in order to disseminate the up-to-date knowledge and recommendations at the official level.

II. Objectives

- Serve as a platform for emerging scientific and commercial knowledge as well as current/future challenges regionally and globally in date palm production, propagation, protection and marketing.
- Render opportunity for sharing novel developments aimed at enhancing date palm production and exploiting its multitude utility.
- Provide a venue for research and industrial collaboration that will potentially lead to strengthening the commercial value of this highly nutritious crop.

III. Conference Theme

Sustainable Date Palm Production.

IV. Conference Co-organizers

UAE	International
➤ Ministry of Climate Change and Environment	➤ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
➤ Ministry of Food and Water Security	➤ International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)
	➤ International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
➤ Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA)	➤ Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)
	➤ Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)
➤ United Arab Emirates University	➤ Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa (AARINENA)
➤ Date Palm Friends Society	➤ Date Palm Global Network (DPGN)

V. Conference Special Features

- Internationally renowned speakers & senior officials from different date palm growing countries.
- Wide range of scientific subjects related to all aspects of date palm cultivation.
- Scientific input from many date growing countries.
- Innovative approach to scientific sessions.
- Well-Organized exhibition.
- Tours visiting various sites of technical or tourist interest in the UAE.
- Excellent weather during this time of the year.

VI. Duration & Venue

Duration: Monday – Wednesday, 14 - 16 March 2022.
Venue: Emirates Palace Hotel.
www.mandarinoriental.com

VII. Conference Topics

- Current status of date palm cultivation in the world.
- Modern commercial date production with a special focus on Mejhool variety.
- Molecular biology, genetic engineering and biotechnology.
- Germplasm.
- Propagation.
- Cultural practices.
- Pest and disease management with a special focus on Red Palm Weevil.
- Post-harvest and processing technologies.

- Nutrition and health.
- Economics and marketing.
- Additionally, the conference will have brief invited presentations from the winners Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation.

VIII. Who Should Attend?

The Seventh International Date Palm Conference is open to all people interested in date palm cultivation & agricultural innovation. The conference provides a forum for updating on current issues of importance to the date industry as well as information on this subject. Participants will be from the public and private sectors who deal with all aspects of the date palm from producers through consumers from around the world.

Examples of the participants are:

- Date Palm Growers.
- Executive Management of Grower Organizations.
- Market Managers and International Traders.
- Scientists of all Aspects of Dates and Date Palm Cultivation.
- Processors and Agro-industrialists.
- Directors of Agricultural & Marketing Companies.
- Nutrition and Health Specialists.
- Biotechnologists, Regulators and Consumers.

IX. Booths

The following booths will be organized during the Conference:

1. Date palm photo gallery from the previously organized International photo competitions;
2. Commercial production of Mejhool.
3. Date products and by-products.
4. Date palm Extension Program illustrating modern cultural practices.
5. Control of the Red Palm Weevil.
6. Date palm research programs in various fields.
7. National handicrafts made from date palm leaves and other by-products.
8. Modern agricultural machinery dealing with date palm cultivation.
9. Date palm tissue culture propagation.
10. Date palms and food security.
11. Date palm poetry international competition

X. Conference Committees

■ High Committee

- H.E. Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence and President of the Award's Board of Trustees.
- Prof. Abdelouahhab Zaid, Advisor, Ministry of Presidential Affairs, KIADPAI General Secretary, Chair Organizing Committee.
- Prof. Ghaleb Alhadrami, Vice Chancellor UAEU, Chair Scientific Committee.
- Dr. Helal Humaid Saed Al Kaabi, Member of the Award's Board of Trustees, Head of the Award's Financial and Administrative Division.

■ Scientific Committee

- Prof. Ghaleb Alhadrami, Vice Chancellor UAEU, Chair Scientific Committee.
- Prof. Bhanu Chowdhary, Dean CFA, UAEU.
- Prof. Franz Hoffmann, USA.
- Prof. Harrison Hughes, USA.
- Prof. Yvon Martel, Canada.
- Prof. Jose Ignacio Cubero, Spain.
- Dr. Samir Al Shakir, Iraq.
- Dr. Abdallah Ben Abdallah, Tunisia.
- Mr. Saeed Al Yammahi, ADAFSA.
- Mr. Ziad Hamami, ICBA.
- Dr. Nasser Saleh Ali Al Khalfan, AARINENA.
- Dr. Mohammed Abdul Mohsen Ali Salem, Vice Dean, CFA, UAEU.
- Dr. Sajid Maqsood Ahmed, Assistant Dean, CFA, UAEU.
- Dr. Shyam Kurup, Associate Professor, CFA, UAEU.
- Dr. Abdul Jaleel Cheruth, Associate Professor, CFA, UAEU.
- Dr. Zienab Ahmed, Associate Professor, CFA, UAEU.
- Dr. Aydin Basarir, Associate Professor, CFA, UAEU.
- Dr. Raman Bhaskaracharya, Associate Professor, CFA, UAEU.

■ Organizing Committee

- Prof. Abdelouahhab Zaid, Advisor, Ministry of Presidential Affairs, KIADPAI General Secretary, Chair Organizing Committee.
- Dr. Rachid Serraj, FAO-RNE.
- Eng. Mohamed Ahmed Al Dhanani, MOCCAIE.
- Mr. Ali AlSaad, ADAFSA
- Ms. Maitha M. Al Kaabi, UAEU
- Mr. Abdul Rasheed Ezhikkotayil, UAEU.
- Mr. Ghazi Jawad Aljabri, ICBA.
- Dr. Abdalla Oihabi, International Expert.

- Eng. Emad Saad, KIADPAI.
- Mr. Ahed Abdul Halim Karkouti, KIADPAI.
- Ms. Afra Al Kaabi, KIADPAI.
- Mr. Tag Elsir Musa, KIADPAI.
- Ms. Esra Ali Shatnawi, KIADPAI.
- Ms. Yasmeen Ali Alantari, KIADPAI.
- Ms. Sara Nasr, DPFS.
- Ms. Rona Burgos Inarsolin, KIADPAI.
- Mr. Sameera Lakshan, KIADPAI.

XI. Conference Language

English & Arabic (with mutual translation)

XII. Post Conference Tours

- The Emirates Date Factory - Al Saad / AGTHIA.
- Khalifa Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Al Ain.
- International Center for Biosaline Agriculture, Dubai.
- Al Ain Date Oasis.
- UAE University and Date Palm Tissue Culture Laboratory.
- Other important sites and historic places.

The participation in these post conference tours will be on a voluntary basis and will take a full day (Thursday 17 March, 2022).

XIII. Conference Sponsors

*Ministry of Presidential Affairs.

*Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation.

XIV. Host Country

- **UAE / Abu Dhabi Emirate:** The United Arab Emirates is a federation of seven emirates, each with its own unique character and personality but yet united with a common goal and destiny. Abu Dhabi is one of the most modern cities in the world. It is the center of government and business life in the UAE and is the largest and most populated of the seven Emirates. The architecture of its modern buildings and sky scrapers is the finest in the Middle East. Large gardens and parks, green boulevards lining all the streets and roads, sophisticated high-rise buildings, state-of-the-art communication services and transport, the presence of all the international luxury hotel chains, rich shopping malls, cultural centers and events provide tourists a one-of-a-kind experience all year round. Abu Dhabi stretches south to the oases of Liwa, where some of the world's largest sand dunes can be found, and east to the ancient oasis of Al Ain. The official religion of the UAE is Islam, but other faiths are tolerated and freedom of worship privately is given.
- **Language:** The official language of the UAE is Arabic. Other languages spoken are English, Hindi, Farsi.
- **Currency:** The UAE currency is Dirham. Arab Emirate Dirhams (=Dhs. or AED) 100 Fils = 1 Dirham. Exchange Rate Dhs. 3.67 = US\$ 1.00.
- **Climate:** Sun shines all year round in the UAE. March is a month of moderate climate. The average daily high and low are 26°C/15°C, respectively.
- **Clothing:** Dress code is informal on all occasions except during the Conference Opening Ceremony. All hotels have swimming pool facilities. The Organizing Committee also suggests to bring sunglasses, a hat, sunscreen and comfortable walking shoes (mainly for the post conference tours, if interested).
- **Visas:** Participants arriving to the United Arab Emirates will need an entry visa except for GCC countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and KSA). Participants of the following countries, can obtain a visa upon arrival at the airport (UK, France, Italy, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Portugal, Ireland, Greece, Turkey, Spain, Monaco, Vatican, Iceland, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, and San Marino). Others from countries not listed above will need an entry visa. It is their full responsibility to have an entry visa if required; however, the Organizing Committee is willing to assist in this regard. A request of an entry visa can be made by filling in the enclosed form and sending it along with a color copy of your valid passport and a recent photo to the SIDPC organizing committee, Ms. Esraa (Mobile # +971505735740; Office # +9712 304 9906), Mr. Rasheed (Mobile # +971505838376; Office # +9713 713 4625) E-mail To: es@kiaai.ae CC: rasheed.e@uaeu.ac.ae
- **Travel and accommodation:** The Organizing Committee will provide local transportation for participants at arrival and departure, and to the Conference venue. Hotel reservation should be arranged in advance by participants themselves or through the organizing committee (Enclosed Accommodation Form is to be filled and sent directly to the SIDPC organizing committee, Ms. Esraa (Mobile # +971505735740; Office # +9712 304 9906), Mr. Rasheed (Mobile # +971505838376; Office # +9713 713 4625) E-mail To: es@kiaai.ae CC: rasheed.e@uaeu.ac.ae

XV. Conveyors

Prof. Abdelouahhab Zaid

Advisor,
Ministry of Presidential Affairs,
KIADPAI General Secretary,
P.O. Box. 280, Abu Dhabi, UAE.
Tel.: +9712 222 4949
E-mail: abdelouahhabz@mopa.ae

Prof. Ghaleb Ali Alhadrami

Vice Chancellor,
UAE University,
P.O. Box.17555, Al Ain, UAE.
Tel.: +9713 713 5999
E-mail: hadrami@uaeu.ac.ae

Abstracts and Proceedings

Abstract Booklet

A booklet of the abstracts on the first day of the conference. Please submit an abstract for both oral and poster presentations (one abstract per paper or presentation) to the Conference Organizing Committee **at:** sara@kiaai.ae, **CC:** rona@kiaai.ae.

Guidelines for the abstract can be found in the enclosed attachment. Submit the abstracts not later than December 15, 2021 (Please reserve the date in your calendar).

Proceedings

Proceedings of full papers will also be published after the conference. You are encouraged to submit a full paper. Only peer reviewed papers will be published. All presenters are requested to submit their paper digital copy, preferably in Microsoft Word) by 15 January, 2022 **to** sara@kiaai.ae, **CC:** rona@kiaai.ae (Please reserve the date in your calendar).

Details on submitting the manuscript

Will be provided in the second announcement.



14 - 16 March 2022

REGISTRATION FORM

Seventh International Date Palm Conference **Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; 14 - 16 March, 2022**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____

MOBILE: _____

FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

I would like:

- To present** **To present a poster or a booth** **To audit only**

To be sent to the Organizing Committee:

E-mail to: rasheed.e@uaeu.ac.ae ; **with CC to:** es@kiaai.ae



ABSTRACT FORM

Seventh International Date Palm Conference Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; 14 - 16 March, 2022

Guidelines for the preparation and submission of abstracts.

Authors are requested to adhere to the following rules:

- The English abstract should be as informative as possible, containing:
 - a) The title of the presentation in Bold Letters and name(s) of the author(s). First names, address etc. in upper and lower case in the boxes marked;
 - b) Statement of the specific objective of the study;
 - c) Results with sufficient details to support conclusions;
 - d) Conclusions.
- Abstract must be typed in single line spacing in English, using type size equal or larger than 10 pts, on the abstract form provided. Do not type outside the enclosed frame.
- Use a laser printer, a good typewriter or a letter quality dot matrix printer. Avoid smudges or erasures.

Please submit by e-mail a copy of your abstract, with the author's names and affiliations as instructed. It will be reproduced as camera-ready copy of the Book of abstracts.

Abstracts are to be sent not later than 15 December 2021 and addressed

To: Ms. Sara Nasr sara@kiaai.ae, **CC:** Ms. Rona Burgos Inarsolin rona@kiaai.ae

البيانات المطلوبة لإستخراج إذن دخول خاص
Special Entry Permit Information Required

البيانات المطلوبة تكتب باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية			
Full Name:			الاسم بالكامل:
Mother's Name:			اسم الأم:
Nationality:			الجنسية:
Occupation:			المهنة:
Sex:			الجنس:
Date of Birth:			تاريخ الميلاد:
Place of Birth:			مكان الميلاد:
Country of Birth:			بلد الميلاد:
Passport No:			رقم الجواز:
Passport Type:			نوع الجواز:
Place of Issue:			مكان الإصدار:
Country of Issue:			بلد الإصدار:
Issue Date:			تاريخ الإصدار:
Expiry Date:			تاريخ الإنتهاء:
Religion:			الديانة:
Marital Status:			الحالة الاجتماعية:
Qualification:			الحالة التعليمية:
Tel. Number:			رقم الهاتف المتحرك:
Permanent Country:			البلد الأصلي:
Address abroad:			العنوان بالخارج:

ملاحظة: إرفاق صورة جواز (ملونة) + صورة شخصية.

Note:

- Please attach a passport-colored copy + personal photo copy (size not more than 300 KB)
- Please send by email to Ms. Esraa Shatnawi: es@kiaai.ae with CC to: rasheed.e@uaeu.ac.ae



14 – 16 March 2022

Seventh International Date Palm Conference
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; 14 - 16 March, 2022

ACCOMODATION FORM

SURNAME		FIRST NAME		TITLE
FULL BUSSINESS ADDRESS			TELEPHONE (COUNTRY CODE/CITY CODE/TEL. NO.)	
			MOBILE:	
			E-MAIL	
ITINERARY	DEPARTURE FROM HOME	ARRIVAL UAE	DEPARTURE FROM UAE	
DATE:				
TIME:				
AIRPORT & TERMINAL:				
PLEASE INDICATE YOUR REFERENCE				
1. SINGLE ROOM <input type="checkbox"/> EMIRATES PALACE Hotel (approx. USD 550) <input type="checkbox"/> INTERCONTINENTAL Hotel (approx. USD 225)				
2. DOUBLE ROOM TO BE SAHRED WITH AN ACCOMPANYING PERSON <input type="checkbox"/> EMIRATES PALACE Hotel (approx. USD 550) <input type="checkbox"/> INTERCONTTENENTAL Hotel (approx. USD 225)				

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE WILL CONFIRM YOUR RESERVATION AND PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS OF THE HOTEL UPON RECEIPT OF THE COMPLETED FORM. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SETTLE YOUR HOTEL BILL UPON DEPARTURE.

SIGNATURE

DATE

To be sent to:

Organizing committee
 Seventh International Date Palm Conference
 E-mail to: es@kiaai.ae with CC to: rasheed.e@uaeu.ac.ae