



## ISSCT JOINT AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING, AGRONOMY AND EXTENSION WORKSHOP

**“Farming for the future: improving productivity and ecological resilience in sugarcane production systems”**

**Second announcement**

<https://www.issctagro2018.com/workshop-theme-and-topics>

The joint ISSCT Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy and Extension Workshop will be held at the Hotel Le Récif, Saint-Gilles, Reunion Island from **23 to 28 September 2018**. Reunion produces 75 – 80% of the sugarcane grown in the French overseas territories. It is also a popular tourist destination (<http://www.reunion.fr/en/home.html>). Saint-Gilles hosts a variety of fashion and craft shops, hotels, restaurants and much more.

### Host organizations

The workshop is being hosted by eRcane and Cirad.

eRcane has made a significant contribution to developing sugarcane production on Reunion since 1929. It has been responsible for selecting new higher yielding varieties and conducting R&D in genetics, agronomy and associated technologies.

Cirad is the French agricultural research and international cooperation organisation working for the sustainable development of tropical and Mediterranean regions and operations in more than 90 countries, and in Reunion, in particular.

### Technical programs

The Workshop will provide an exciting opportunity to discuss topics on sugarcane agricultural engineering, agronomy and extension, and the linkages between these. Participants are encouraged to participate actively by preparing and submitting abstracts for oral or poster presentations. The Workshop will include a wide range of topics and provide the opportunity to debate some of the key challenges facing the sugarcane industries at an international scale. The envisaged sessions will include (<https://www.issctagro2018.com/workshop-theme-and-topics>):

- Alternative fertilisers;
- Weed management;
- Numerical agriculture – the third green revolution;

- Irrigation and associated topics;
- Circular economy;
- Farming systems;
- Agricultural machinery;
- Extension, delivery and adoption.

#### **Language:**

The Workshop will be conducted in English.

#### **Workshop format:**

The formal programme will comprise several sessions covering specific topics. Each session will comprise a combination of oral and poster presentations and sufficient time for discussion and workshopping activities

The Workshop will include two field visits – one associated with developments in agricultural engineering, and the other more agronomy focused. A booklet of abstracts will be printed and given to the delegates. **The deadline for submission of abstracts for all contributions (oral and poster) has been extended to 15 April 2018.** Please see the instruction for submission on the Workshop website (<https://www.issctagro2018.com/abstract-submission>).

Any queries regarding abstracts should be directed to Prof Bernard Schroeder ([Bernard.Schroeder@usq.edu.au](mailto:Bernard.Schroeder@usq.edu.au))

A template for Abstract is available on the Workshop website. This template **must** be used. Abstracts need to be submitted to [Bernard.Schroeder@usq.edu.au](mailto:Bernard.Schroeder@usq.edu.au)

#### **Entry visas**

Foreign (non-French) passport holders generally require a visa to enter Reunion Island. Please ensure that you specify that you need to go to **Reunion Island**. Please contact the French Consular authorities in your own country.

NOTE: Workshop delegates from **all** countries should confirm their requirement for a visa with a travel agent to avoid potential difficulties and disappointment.

#### **ISSCT membership**

All participants must be current members of ISSCT by the start of the Workshop. Details are available on the ISSCT Website <http://www.issct.org/member.html>

#### **Key dates**

**15 April 2018:** Extended deadline for submission of abstract(s) (oral or poster).

**5 May 2018:** Deadline for booking accommodation with the Hotel Le Récif. Participants must make their own bookings.

**15 May 2018:** Authors informed about acceptance of oral/posters presentations.

**31 July 2018:** Extended closing date for Workshop registration.

**23 – 28 September 2018:** Workshop

## **Costs**

Participants at the Workshop must meet their own costs of travel, accommodation, meals and other incidentals. A conference accommodation package has been negotiated with the Hotel Le Récif, Saint-Gilles, Reunion Island. Room rates will be approximately 776 euros (single room) and 536 euros (per person sharing a double room) for the duration of the Workshop (6 nights: In 23 Sep, out 29 Sep). Reservations must be made directly with the hotel. Please contact Caroline Kleirle Tel: +262262700100 or E-mail: [caroline.Keirle@luxiledelareunion.com](mailto:caroline.Keirle@luxiledelareunion.com) Please remember to specify that you will be attending the ISSCT Workshop

Registration fees for the workshop will be 365 euros and will cover the lunches during the workshop, the welcoming cocktail party, the workshop dinner, and the field visits.

## **Further information**

For further information, please contact:

### **Workshop Organising Committee:**

Daniel Marion – [marion@ercane.re](mailto:marion@ercane.re)

Pascal Marnotte – [pascal.marnotte@cirad.fr](mailto:pascal.marnotte@cirad.fr)

### **Agronomy Section Chair and Agricultural Commissioner:**

Prof Bernard Schroeder (USQ, Australia): [Bernard.Schroeder@usq.edu.au](mailto:Bernard.Schroeder@usq.edu.au)

### **Agricultural Engineering Section Chair:**

Dr Neil Lecler (Tongaat Hulett, South Africa): [Neil.Lecler@tongaat.com](mailto:Neil.Lecler@tongaat.com)