

CONDESAN-InfoAndina/ MOSandes/ ASOCAM
IPM-SMS E-Conference

<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/foros/suelos/>
24 nov. - 5 dic., 2003

Dear Colleagues,

Under the initiative of MOSandes network and ASOCAM, the network of Rural Sustainable Mountain Agriculture projects financed by SDC, and the technical support of InfoAndina, CONDESAN Information network and operator of the Latin American Mountain Forum, we have the pleasure to convene an electronic conference (<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/foros/suelos/>) oriented not only for scientists but also for development institutions interested in aspects related to integrated soil management and pests that affect the Andean ecosystems.

AUDIENCE:

The forum is directed to a broad scientific audience and the civil society: agricultural experts, ecologists, ministries of agriculture, financing agencies and institutions of formulation of development policies, students, livestock networks, seed producers, Research and extension in livestock systems, Latin-American of Soil Science Society, Research Unit Seq-C (IRD, Montpellier), FAO (former-Fertisuelos, Bolivia), Microbiologists, trading companies of organic products. Specialists in echo-physiology, agronomy, functional ecology, agroclimatology, universities.

ORGANIZATION:

The electronic Forum will have a duration of 2 weeks between 24 November and 5 December 2003. Registrations and summaries of 200 words will be accepted up to 15 November, 2003. Send your summary to: InfoAndina-foros@cgiar.org

Nov. 24-28: Management of soil fertility in agroecosystems of tropical Andes

Moderator: **Dr. Walter Bowen** (IFDC, MOSandes)

<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/forums/soils/MOSandes.pdf>

The management of soil fertility considers methods of intensification and sustainability of crop systems, integrated nutrient management (organic and mineral) in crop systems - Echo-technology Adaptation and validation of biophysical simulation models and decision support in Andean conditions.

In the tropical Andes, especially in the central Altiplano, it is possible to establish steps to define rules on land use and monitor the status of soil & water resources. The debate is an attempt to answer questions pending of research, with a collection of successful cases of models, results, concrete experiences of development and research that support decision-making on soil management.

Objectives:

- ❑ Achieve participation of MOSandes network in the prioritized scientific topics
- ❑ Introduce MOSandes to a greater number of professionals as the basis of a scientific network that could be an antenna of the TSBF (Tropical Soil Biology and Fertility), for the agricultural sector-ecosystems of tropical mountains.
- ❑ Identify contacts, teams, laboratories in every Andean country which could become members of MOSandes, that could contribute knowledge and experiences on the subject matters prioritized by Mosandes, with already published works, scientific articles to publish, projects in progress or planned of research and extension. A

product could be to identify potential publications, selected from the forum, for international journals or special issues of these journals.

MOSAndes network and CONDESAN will try to develop synergies between projects and actors in the region and through this debate support the exchange of experiences and successful cases on soil management.

Dec 1-5: Debate on IPM VERSUS SMS (Integrated Pest Management versus Integrated Soil Management) Moderator: **Dr. Javier Franco** (BIOSOMA, Bolivia)
<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/forums/soils/MIPvsMSS.pdf>

Sustainable Management of Soils (SMS) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) constitute two important pillars for sustainable agriculture. However, a document published by ASOCAM (Rural Sustainable Agriculture of Mountain) puts in discussion the thesis that formal systems should support with more urgency IPM actions and that the donors should increase funding for initiatives related to this subject.

With this thesis we do not intend to discuss the relative importance of both subjects (it is considered that both are important) and neither concepts as integrated crop management (ICM) that integrates both subjects. What we would like to express is that currently the investment of a unit of money in IPM has more potential for achieving positive impact than placing the same unit of money in MSS.

The objective of the debate is to discuss about which - IPM or SMS - efforts of institutional support to contribute for sustainable agriculture should be directed with improved urgency.

Taking the document of ASOCAM as a base for the debate, presentation of case studies will be selected by a Scientific Committee and distributed in the agenda of the forum that will be available the participants registered at the beginning of the forum in order to request comments during the debate.

Cordially,

The Organizing Committee of the IPM-SMS Forum
E-mail: InfoAndina-Foros@cgiar.org

IPM SMS E-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
<http://www.condesan.org/infoandina/foros/suelos/formulario.htm>

(Fill and send this form to: infoandina-foros@cgiar.org before 15 NOVEMBER, 2003)

Name:

Institution:

City:

Country:

E-mail:

Will send Cases studies? SI _ NO _

On which subject? (Soil Management) ___ or (IPM vs SMS) ___

Title of the Case study: _____