



Number V

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## 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON SUNN PEST MANAGEMENT OCT 10-12, 2017

The Iranian Institute of Plant Protection (IRIPP) and the University of Vermont (UVM) in collaboration with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) are organizing the 4th International Congress on Sunn Pest Management to be held at IRIPP headquarters in Tehran, Iran, October 10-12, 2017. The motto of the congress is **“Farmers Can’t Wait. Manage Sunn Pest Today for a Better World Tomorrow”** In view of the importance of this pest, as it accounts for annual grain losses of 20-30% in barley, and 50-90% in wheat in Central and West Asia and Eastern Europe, this Congress is planned to review the progress and recent advances in Sunn Pest management from 2004 through 2016. Another major goal is to develop international collegiality among Sunn Pest researchers and managers.

The Sunn Pest is one of the most serious pests of wheat and barley in West Asia, where over \$42 million (U.S.) is spent for its control. Yield loss from its damage is commonly estimated at 20-30% in barley and 50-90% in wheat. This insect damages these crops by feeding on leaves, stems and grains. During feeding they also inject chemicals that greatly reduce the baking quality of flour made from damaged wheat. If 2-3% of the grain is damaged, entire lots may be ruined because the flour will be unpalatable and the bread won't rise. Heavy attack causes wheat stems to break before harvest.

The Sunn Pest refers to a group of insects representing several genera of the 'shield bug' (Scutelleridae) and 'stink bug' (Pentatomidae) Families, with the species *Eurygaster integriceps* being the most economically important. Sunn Pest is found in parts of North Africa, throughout West Asia and many of the New Independent States of Central Asia.

Large areas of wheat sometimes remain unharvested because Sunn Pest damage is so severe. This insect also attacks barley, though damage is usually low. Large outbreaks of Sunn Pest generally occur every 6 to 8 years and can potentially cause yield losses of tens of millions of dollars. All interested people are invited to attend this event to contribute through presentations, posters and/or participation in discussions.

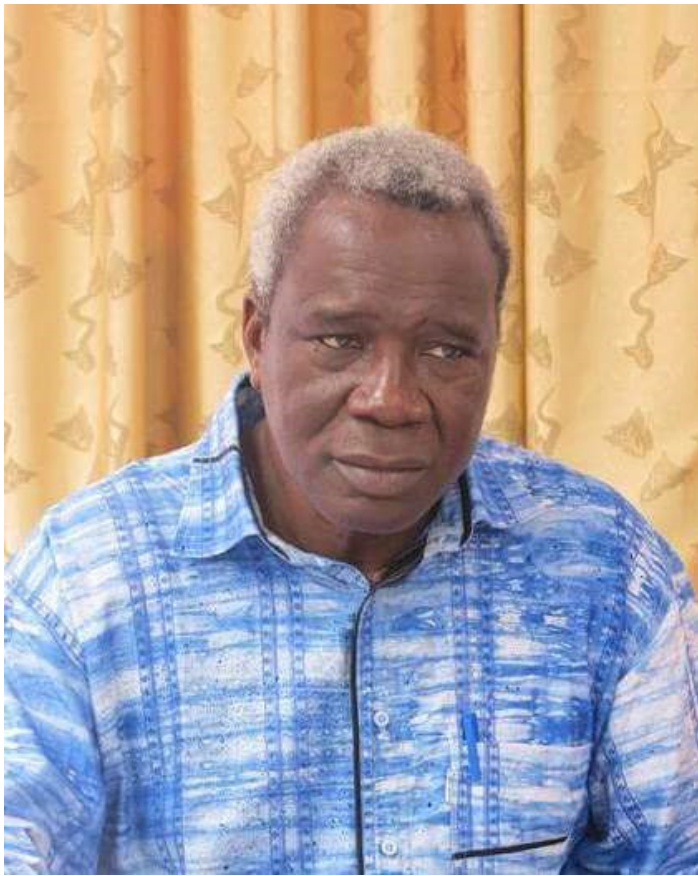
More information on Sunn pest and this congress are available at the following website:  
<http://www.uvm.edu/~entlab/sunnpest/index.html>

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## IN MEMORY OF PROF. DONA DAKOUO



Our friend and colleague **Prof. Dona Dakouo** passed away on January 7 after a brief illness. Dona was born in Ira (Djibasso), Burkina Faso, in 1951, and has been an eminent entomologist with the 'Institut de l'Environnement et de Recherches Agricoles', INERA, Burkina Faso until his tragic demise.

He obtained his MSc in 1976 and his PhD in 1980, both from the Faculty of Sciences at the University of Rennes I in France. He obtained a second PhD, 'Doctorat d'Etat', in natural Sciences in 1985 from the University of Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire). In 1981 he was nominated head of the cereals entomology lab at the Farako-Bâ/Bobo-Dioulasso station of the 'Institut Voltaïque de la Recherche Agronomique et Zootechnique' (IVRAZ). From 1990 to 1993, Dona was awarded a post-doc position at the International Center for Insect Ecology and Physiology (ICIPE) at Nairobi,

Kenya. Back to his institute, INERA, in 1997 he was nominated head of the rice program at the Farako-Bâ station.

He also assumed functions at the regional level: from 2000 to 2004 he was nominated President of the IPM action group of the West and Central Africa Rice Research and Development Network (Réseau Ouest et Centre Africain de Recherches sur le Riz, ROCARIZ), and from 2004 to 2005 Principal Technical Advisor of the Regional Project of Integrated Control against major pests in the Lake Chad Basin, within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad, CBLT) based in Ndjamena (Tchad).

From 2012 to 2015, he was nominated Coordinator of the National Center of Excellence for Fruits and Legumes (Centre National de Spécialisation en Fruits et Légumes, CNS-FL) in Farako-Bâ, in the framework of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP) under the umbrella of the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD). From 2015 onward, he has been Scientific Coordinator for the applied research component of the regional ECOWAS project Support to the Regional Plan for the Control of Fruit Flies in West Africa (Soutien au Plan Régional de Lutte et de Contrôle des Mouches des Fruits en Afrique de l'ouest, SPRMF).

Dona was a founding member of the Burkina Entomological Society (SOEB) and member of the African Association of Insect Scientists (AAIS) of which he was appointed President from 2009 to

2013. Since May 2013, he was honored as Founding Member of the National Academy for Sciences, Arts and Literature of Burkina Faso (ANSL-BF).

For his dedication to his work, his professional engagement, his team spirit, sense of patriotism and his achievement, Dona was bestowed with the 'Ordre des Palmes Académiques' in Octobre 2010 by President of Faso.

**Dr. Souleymane Nacro** <

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**IAPPS Mission: to provide a global forum for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, integrating, and promoting plant protection concepts, technologies, and policies that are economically, environmentally, and socially acceptable.**

**It seeks to provide a global umbrella for the plant protection sciences to facilitate and promote the application of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to the world's crop and forest ecosystems.**

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