

# BARC e-Update



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July 2006

**BARC** is part of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service and encompasses programs at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center; the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.; and worksites in Chatsworth, New Jersey; Presque Isle, Maine; and McMinnville, Tennessee. BARC is the largest and most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. BARC's record of accomplishments and its ongoing programs have made it a world leader in agricultural research.

## Blowing Our Own Horn!



### BELTSVILLE AREA SCIENTISTS OF THE YEAR

**Dr. Walter Rawls** of the Hydrology and Remote Sensing Laboratory has been awarded our 2006 Beltsville Area Senior Research Scientist of the Year award; he is being recognized for outstanding research and international leadership in the development and application of soil hydraulic properties in agricultural hydrology.

**Dr. Douglas Bannerman** of the Bovine Functional Genomics Laboratory has been awarded our 2006 Beltsville Area Early Career Scientist of the Year award for his contributions to the development of a highly productive and innovative research program which is defining the role of the immune response to intramammary infection. The Beltsville Area Celebration of Excellence Award Ceremony will be held at the U.S. National Arboretum on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

### BARC SCIENTIST RECEIVES AAAP AWARD



**Dr. Hyun Lillehoj**, Research Immunologist with BARC's Animal Parasitic Diseases Laboratory, received the 2006 P.P. Levine Award at the annual meeting of the American Association of

Avian Pathologists (AAAP) of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The P.P. Levine Award winner is selected by the AAAP Award Committee and is based on the best scientific papers published during the previous year.

### BARC SCIENTIST ELECTED SECRETARY OF MSA



**Dr. M. Catherine Aime**, Research Molecular Biologist in the Systematic Botany & Mycology Laboratory, has been elected to

the position of Secretary of the Mycological Society of America (MSA). In this position, Dr. Aime will be a member of the Executive Committee of the Society and involved in determining the future directions of the organization. The MSA is a scientific society dedicated to advancing the science of mycology – the study of fungi of all kinds, including mushrooms, molds, truffles, yeasts, lichens, plant pathogens, and medically important fungi. The MSA has about 1,200 members, including professional and amateur mycologists with interests covering the entire range of scientific disciplines in such general categories as ecology-pathology, systematics-evolution, genetics-molecular biology, and physiology.

## Community Interest...

### USDA FOOD AND NUTRITION SUMMER INSTITUTE

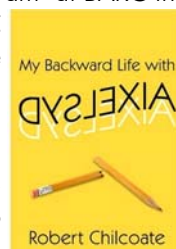


The theme of the 2006 USDA Food and Nutrition Summer Institute, held June 25 – 28, 2006 in Atlanta, Georgia, was "Healthy People, Healthy Communities: Defining Our Role for the Next Five Years." **Dr. Ellen Harris** of BARC's Community Nutrition Research Group heads the Summer Institute program, the mission of which is to support nutrition programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century research, education and workforce challenges and, ultimately, enhance the public health and general well-being within the community. Focus areas include nutrition education and outreach, nutrition intervention research, nutrition policy, and nutrition linkages to the community. The Summer Institute is typically comprised of students, postdocs, and emerging faculty

who teach and/or conduct nutrition research. For more information, please contact Dr. Harris at 301.504.0610 or [HarrisE@ba.ars.usda.gov](mailto:HarrisE@ba.ars.usda.gov).

### BARC EMPLOYEE HONORED BY LITERACY COUNCIL OF PG COUNTY

The Literacy Council of Prince George's County, Maryland honored **Robert Chilcoate**, a BARC employee, at its Annual Awards Banquet on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Robert, who has dyslexia, learned to read over a 4 ½ year period through a program at BARC in which he was paired with a tutor, BARC employee, **Dr. Shanthy Bowman**. Mr. Chilcoate not only learned to read, but he has also written a book, "My Backward Life with Dyslexia." He spoke about his experiences at the banquet. The Literacy Council holds on-going tutoring workshops. For more information, or to volunteer, please visit [www.literacycouncil.org](http://www.literacycouncil.org).



## BARC SCIENTIST HOSTS TWO TOURS FOR WCSS



The 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS) was held on July 9 – 15 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This was the first WCSS held in the United States since 1960, and the theme was “Frontiers of Soil Science: Technology and the Information Age.” **Dr. V.R. Reddy**, Research Leader of BARC’s Crop Systems and Global Change Laboratory (CSGCL), hosted two tours for WCSS participants at the BARC station. The “Sustainable Systems and Crop Modeling Research” Tour began with a look at CSGCL’s Soil-Plant-Atmospheric-Research (SPAR) facility followed by a stop at the Sustainable Agricultural Systems Laboratory (SASL) for a view into cover crop research currently being conducted in BARC fields, a stop at SASL’s Farming Systems Project Site, and lastly, a stop to discuss research on glomalin and rhizosphere colonization. The “Animal and Natural Resources” Tour started with a stop at the Hydrology and Remote Sensing Laboratory’s (HRSL) OPE3 (Optimizing Production Inputs for Economic and Environmental Enhancement) watershed study site and continued with a stop at

HRSL’s and Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN) site. The third stop was at the Environmental Management and By-Product Utilization Laboratory’s phytoextraction field test site, and the final stop was at our Composting and Research Facility.

## BIOENERGY – HYBRID GASIFICATION FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY



The Department of Energy’s National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) at Morgantown, WV and BARC have initiated a feasibility study for a hybrid gasification facility at BARC. The study will develop a gasifier system as a means to create an R&D platform to study various biomass and industrial feedstocks and to reduce energy costs at BARC. These feedstocks will produce a syngas which can be used to produce heat and electrical power and to support research in the production of liquid fuels and fertilizer. The gasification system will be flexible enough to operate on numerous opportunity fuels and coal. For more information on this study, please contact BARC’s Associate Area Director, **Dr. Ron Korcak**, at 301.504.5193 or [KorcakR@ba.ars.usda.gov](mailto:KorcakR@ba.ars.usda.gov).

## Mark Your Calendar!

### POTOMAC BONSAI ASSOCIATION CLUB EXHIBIT

**Dates:** August 19 – 27  
**Time:** 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
**Place:** U.S. National Arboretum, National Bonsai & Penjing Museum, International Pavilion, Special Exhibits Wing



**Demonstration to be held at the Lecture/Demonstration Center**  
 The Chesapeake Bonsai Society, a club of the Potomac Bonsai Association (PBA), will exhibit bonsai from the private collections of members. On August 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., members will give a demonstration with practical information for new bonsai owners. The PBA is an association of bonsai clubs throughout Washington, DC; Maryland; and Virginia. For information on upcoming PBA events or to join your local club, visit [www.potomacbonsai.com](http://www.potomacbonsai.com). Visit the Arboretum’s website for information on this event at [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov).

how to use compositional guidelines to make visually appealing images. Lotus, waterlilies and koi in their watery home will be the subjects of this 2-part workshop. The first session of the workshop will include an orientation with illustrated handouts and time to shoot with the instructor. The second session of the workshop will be a formal critique of participants’ photographs. Visit the Arboretum’s website for registration information at [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov). Learn more about Joshua Taylor at [www.archiphotoworkshops.com](http://www.archiphotoworkshops.com).

### BARC POULTRY FACILITY BUILDING DEDICATION

The dedication of BARC’s new Poultry Facility will take place on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The new 28,100 square foot poultry facility will be both a production



and hatchery poultry building. This new combination facility will replace old buildings that are in poor condition and obsolete. The facility will support research being conducted by the Growth Biology Laboratory and the Biotechnology and Germplasm Laboratory; research in these labs centers on poultry nutrition, growth regulation, poultry reproduction, and molecular biology, with an emphasis on functional genomics and proteomics. Slated to speak at the dedication ceremony are Congressman Steny Hoyer; Bill Satterfield of Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc.; and Dr. Edward Knipping, Administrator of ARS. This event is open to the public. Call 301.504.6078 for information.

### AQUATIC FLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP AT THE U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM

**Dates:** August 5 & 12  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
**Place:** U.S. National Arboretum, East Terrace of the Administration Building  
**Registration is Required.** Fee: \$75



Accomplished photographer and teacher Joshua Taylor, Jr. will help students understand outdoor close-up photography and

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