

Preface: Plasma Agriculture

The 1st International Workshop on Plasma Agriculture (IWOPA-1) was hosted by the Drexel University's C. & J. Nyheim Plasma Institute (formerly A.J. Drexel Plasma Institute) on May 15–20, 2016, at the Institute's location in Camden, New Jersey. IWOPA-1 had 92 registered participants from 26 countries, with 50 oral presentations given by world's foremost experts in application of non-equilibrium discharges in agricultural applications. The specific topics covered at the workshop included plasma science and engineering in:

- Food safety
- Plant growth
- Plant yield
- Germination
- Plant pathogen resistance
- Food storage and transportation

This special issue contains papers resulting from the presentations made at the workshop. Of note is the diversity of the scientific endeavors, ranging from low pressure plasma modification of seed surface to large-scale farm-ready water treatment systems.

The enthusiasm of the participants and their colleagues led to the decision to continue these workshops. The 2nd IWOPA is planned for March 9–11, 2018, in Takayama, Gifu, Japan, at Takayama Shimin Kaikan (Takayama Civic Cultural Hall). Scientists interested in participating in this workshop should consult www.iwopa.org for further information.

Guest Editors:

Masafumi Ito
Department of Electrical
and Electronic Engineering
Meijo University, Japan

Masaharu Shiratani
Department of Electronics
Kyushu University, Japan

vi

Eun Ha Choi
Plasma Bioscience Research Center
Kwangwoon University, Seoul, Korea

Gregory Fridman
C. & J. Nyheim Plasma Institute
Drexel University, USA