

Asia-Pacific Probiotic Workshop 2020 (Virtual) (APPW2020)

Introduction to Asia- Pacific Probiotics Workshops

Asia- Pacific Probiotics Workshops (APPW) are series of workshops focusing on advanced and applied science in probiotics area. The event is held annually to bring academics, researchers, professionals and industrialists together to discuss scientific and technical advancements in the probiotics sector. A summary of the objectives of these workshops is given below:

- To introduce recent scientific advances on applications of probiotics in Food Industry;
- To understand the health benefits of probiotics and innovation in their applications;
- To talk about probiotic food products, quality assurance, market growth and regulations;
- To share ideas on new avenues for probiotics use for human consumption.

7th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2020 (Virtual)

The 7th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2020 will be held virtually on 8th and 9th December 2020. The workshop will be jointly organised by the Research Institute of Food Science and Technology (RIFST) in Mashhad (Iran) and Asia-Pacific Institute of Food Professionals. The workshop will be organised in partnership with several other collaborating universities, institutes and organisations. This year's workshop is aimed to enhance scientific understanding of the impact of probiotics on human health and well-being. Many renowned probiotics scientists, academics and professionals are participating in the workshop to share knowledge and research findings.

Research Institute of Food Science and Technology (RIFST)

RIFST, located in Mashhad- Iran with 38 years of valuable experience, is a pioneer center for scientific and innovative food research commissioned to meet the research needs of food science and technology across the country. In addition, RIFST, equipped with high-tech labs, pursues the implementation of applied and custom-oriented research projects, thanks to its dedicated scientists. While educating adept human resources in the field of food science and technology has been one of RIFST's major missions since 2012, research-based international student education is a new and important assignment for this institute.

Asia-Pacific Institute of Food Professionals (APIFP) – A professional network in the region

APIFP is a non-profit professional organization that has been developed to provide a platform to food professionals in Asia-pacific region to address regional food supply challenges. The Asia-pacific region faces a diversity of food-related challenges, including food security, food safety, poor quality in health foods, and an overall shortage in its food supply. There is a strong need to develop more and closer regional collaborations and cooperation arrangements. APIFP has been

established to connect regional food professionals for the benefit of the public and the local food sector through education, research, training and regular engagement.

An Overview of Past Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshops

THAILAND, 2019

The 6th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop was hosted by Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand on August 5-6, 2019 while welcoming participants from 8 countries. The event's Chairperson was Prof. Kanitha Tananuwang Head of the Department of Food Technology, Chulalongkorn University.



↑ *Group photo: Speakers and participants at 6th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2019, Bangkok, Thailand*

MALAYSIA, 2018

The 5th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop (September 23, 2018) was hosted by Universiti of Teknologi Malaysia and was held at Pulai Springs Resort, Johor Bahru, Malaysia. The event also had Prof. Ida Idayu Muhamad and Dr. Zanariah Hashim as the Chairpersons and Dr. Malik Altaf Hussain as the Co-Chairperson.



↑ **Group photo:** Speakers and participants at 5th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2018, Johor Bahru, Malaysia

VIETNAM, 2017

The 4th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop (November 22, 2017) was held at Industrial University of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in collaboration with the Research Institute of Food Science and Technology (RIFST) Mashhad, Iran, while welcoming over 300 participants from 19 countries. The workshop provided numerous opportunities for participants to discuss key issues of food security and sustainable development, as well as the latest achievements on probiotics. Also, about 36 researchers from different universities and research institutes formed the scientific committee of this workshop. The event was Chaired by Prof. Dam Sao Mai and co-Chaired by Dr. Malik Altaf Hussain.



↑ **Group photo:** Speakers and participants at 4th Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2017, HCM City, Vietnam

IRAN, 2016

The 3rd Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop (December 6-7, 2016) was hosted by the Research Institute of Food Science and Technology (RIFST) Mashhad, Iran in collaboration with Asia-Pacific Institute of Food Professionals (APIFP), Jinan University of China.

The Objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- To introduce recent scientific advances on applications of probiotics in Food Industry
- To understand the benefits of probiotics use and innovative application approaches
- To talk about probiotics food products that meet scientific criteria
- To share ideas on new avenues for probiotics use to boost production of safe foods for human consumption.

The event received international experts from 8 countries as well as over 90 participants from local and International academic centers and industries. The honourable speakers included:

- Dr. Malik Altaf Hussain, Managing Director of APIFP, Australia
- Prof. Xiang Wu, Jianan University, China
- Dr. Dam Sao Mai, Industrial University of Hochi Minh City, Vietnam
- Prof. Ida Idayu Muhamad, University of Technology, Malaysia
- Prof. Quang D. Nguyen, Szent Istvan University, Hungary
- Dr. Naheed Mojmani, Razi Vaccine and Serum Research Institute (RVSRI), Iran



↑ Group photo: Speakers and participants
at 3rd Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2016, Mashhad, Iran

CHINA, 2015

The 2nd Asia-pacific Probiotics workshop (November 12, 2015), themed to discuss probiotics and human health, was hosted by Jinan University, Guangzhou, China. Professor Xi-yang (Kent) Wu acted as the Chairperson of the workshop. A great deal of interest was seen in the second workshop and more than 100 attendees benefited from the technical sessions presented at the workshops. The honourable speakers included Professor Shu-ze Tang (Dean of International School, Jinan University, China), Dr. Pramod Gopal (Food Nutrition and Health, New Zealand), Professor Yung-Fu Chang (Cornell University, USA), Professor Yuan Kun Lee (National University of Singapore, Singapore), Dr Tetsuji Hori (Yakult Central

Institute, Japan), Professor Peter C.K. Cheung (The Chinese University of Hong Kong,, Hong Kong), Dr Qiang Feng (BGI-Shenzhen, China), Dr Malik A. Hussain and Dr Ravi Gooneratne (Lincoln University, New Zealand).



↑ Group photo: Speakers and participants at 2nd Asia-Pacific Probiotics Symposium 2015, Guangzhou, China

NEW ZEALAND, 2014

The 1st Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop (October 12-13, 2014) was hosted by Lincoln University, Lincoln, New Zealand. The Workshop organizer Dr. Malik Hussain expanded the event into a two-day overview of probiotic technologies in the lab and in the real world applications. The event featured talks from world-class researchers in the rapidly developing probiotic sector drawn from Asia-Pacific region, poster presentations from emerging New Zealand researchers, a panel discussion on the future of microbial technologies, and field visits to learn more about real world applications of probiotics in human health and agriculture.



↑ Photo: Participants at 1st Asia-Pacific Probiotics Workshop 2014, Lincoln, New Zealand