



Advancing tropical plant research: how the International Conference on Tropical Plants (ICTP) drives innovation and collaboration

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The ever-expanding field of tropical plant research is critical to addressing numerous global challenges, from climate change resilience to sustainable agriculture. At the forefront of these efforts is our international academic journal, *Tropical Plants*, which has become a pivotal platform for the dissemination of groundbreaking research and innovative practices. Complementing this, the International Conference on Tropical Plants (ICTP) has been established as an annual congregation of leading scientists, researchers, and practitioners dedicated to tropical plant studies.

Following the successful launch of the first and second ICTP, we are excited to introduce our dedicated conference website (<https://bioinformatics.hainanu.edu.cn/conf>, shown as Fig. 1) and the Wechat Official Account on *Tropical Plants* (in Chinese: 热带植物), designed to further enhance the impact and accessibility of our conferences. This editorial aims to highlight how our new website not only facilitates seamless academic exchanges but also strengthens the global research community's capacity for innovation and collaboration in tropical plant science.

Comprehensive support for conference participation

Recognizing the diverse needs of our participants, the conference website offers a suite of services that simplify the logistical aspects of conference attendance. Our robust registration system allows for streamlined sign-ups, while the integrated payment system ensures secure and hassle-free transactions. Attendees can easily access and download relevant documents, schedules, and materials, ensuring they are well-prepared for the event.

Moreover, detailed information about the conference, including schedules, organizer bios, keynote speaker profiles, and accommodation options are readily available. This transparency and ease of access empower participants to make informed decisions, fostering a more engaging and productive conference experience.

Promoting scientific unity and advancement

The ICTP and its online platform are instrumental in cultivating a cohesive and vibrant community of tropical plant researchers. Attendees who register on the ICTP conference website can use their registration information for future

conferences, eliminating the need to re-register. By providing a central venue for sharing knowledge and networking, the conference website encourages collaboration and the cross-pollination of ideas. This is crucial for driving forward the foundational and applied research that underpins advances in tropical plant science.

Catalyzing research and innovation

A key highlight of ICTP is the active participation of leading biotechnology, instrumentation, and bioinformatics service companies as sponsors. Their generous support reflects not only their commitment to advancing tropical plant research but also their recognition of the pivotal role such conferences play in bridging the gap between scientific discovery and technological innovation. These industry leaders are at the forefront of cutting-edge research tools and methodologies, and the conference offers a unique platform for them to showcase their products and services. By dedicating time for sponsors to present their latest innovations, ICTP fosters an invaluable



Fig. 1 The official homepage of ICTP. The website can be found at <https://bioinformatics.hainanu.edu.cn/conf>.

exchange between academia and industry, catalyzing collaborations that are essential for the continued growth and advancement of tropical plant science. This synergy between research, industry, and publication holds immense potential, enriching both the academic community and the practical applications of scientific discoveries.

Ultimately, our goal is to foster an environment where scientific inquiry and innovation can thrive. The ICTP, supported by our comprehensive website and WeChat are a testament to our commitment to advancing tropical plant research. By facilitating high-quality academic exchanges and providing the necessary tools and resources, we are not only promoting scientific excellence but also contributing to the broader mission of sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

In conclusion, the annually held International Conference on Tropical Plants and its dedicated website represent significant strides in our ongoing efforts to support and enhance the global research community focused on tropical plants. We invite researchers, practitioners, and enthusiasts to join us in this journey, leveraging these platforms to drive forward the frontiers of tropical plant science. Together, the journal *Tropical Plants* can achieve remarkable progress and make a lasting impact on the world.

Author contributions

The authors confirm contribution to the paper as follows: data collection and website construction: Zhang X; study conception and design, draft manuscript preparation: Chen F, Wang W, Henry RJ. All authors reviewed the results and approved the final version of the manuscript.

Data availability

Data sharing not applicable (no new data generated).

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Conflict of interest

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Dates

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