Report for the 15th International Conference and Exhibition on Mechanization of Field Experiments

By the Executive Secretary of IAMFE, Prof. Wang Jiasheng

The 15th International Conference and Exhibition on Mechanization of Field Experiments (IAMFE/Russia’2017) was held successfully in Moscow, Russia during June 27-28, 2017. IAMFE/Russia’2017 was co-sponsored by the International Association on Mechanization of Field Experiments (IAMFE), the Russian Branch of IAMFE and Russia Federal Scientific Agro-engineering Center (VIM). The site of International Conference of IAMFE was the Meeting Center of VIM. More than 120 delegates from the following 7 countries participated in this event: Russia, China, Germany, Austria, Belarus, Poland and South Korea.

At the opening ceremony, the President of IAMFE, Prof. Shang Shuqi gave a welcome speech to all the participants, and he also read the warm greetings sent by the Founder of IAMFE, Prof. Egil Oyjord from Norway. Prof. Egil Oyjord regretted that his health situation prevented him from participating in this great event, but he expressed his best wishes for a successful 15th International IAMFE Conference and Exhibition, and he also hope that the National IAMFE Branches will continue their work for securing increased plant breeding and variety trials for increased food production in their countries. Academician & Prof. Popov V. D. from the Russian Academy of Science, also the Chief scientific adviser of Institute for Engineering and Environmental Problems in Agricultural Production(IEEP) and the Director of Federal Scientific Agro-engineering Center VIM, Mr. Izmailov A. Y. also gave their welcome and greetings at the opening ceremony.

After the Opening Ceremony, Prof. Shang Shuqi firstly gave a keynote presentation of “Work Development of IAMFE (2012-2017) and Research Work on Mechanization of Field Experiments in China”. In his report, the much work that has been developed by IAMFE Centre was summarized since the IAMFE International Centre was moved to Qingdao Agricultural University, China in October, 2012. Seven Regional Centres of IAMFE were divided into in China for more efficient work according to their geographical distribution in China. Prof. Shang Shuqi visited Zimbabwe, South Africa, South Korea for looking for possibility to establish national branches in Africa and Asia. On behalf of IAMFE, Prof. Shang Shuqi also visited Russia, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, German for the academic communication, and presented International activities in the past five years.
Mr. Izmailov A. Y. was moderating the Opening Ceremony

Prof. Shang Shuqi was giving his greeting speech

Academician & Prof. Popov V. D. was giving his greeting speech

The Academic Seminars and Exhibitions on Mechanization of Field Experiments for IAMFE 50
Anniversary were organized in Norway and Sweden in June, 2014. Several international and national academic activities on mechanization of field experiments were co-organized by IAMFE and other organizations. Dr. Vladislav Minin from Russia, Dr. John Stevens and Mr. Ian Close from New Zealand, Prof. Sun-Ok Chung and other two Professors from Korea, Prof. Rudy Ottway from USA, Prof. Reiner Doluschitz and Prof. Stefan Böttinger from German were invited to visit IAMFE Center in the recent years. With the support and guide of IAMFE, a research team on machinery of field experiments was built in QAU. A National Project on plant breeding mechanization was support by China government. After five years’ hard working, more than ten types plot seeders and plot harvesters were developed by the research team. Massive experiments were done in the field by use of these prototypes. The experimental results show the plot machines’ performance can meet the requirements of the filed experiments of plant breeding in China. Some research prototypes have been made batch by Chinese manufacturers and come into Chinese market.

During the two-day conference, 20 academic presentations were given by the delegates from the Universities, Institutes, Academy and companies of different countries. The Conference topics includes the Plenary session, the Session of “Technical devices and technologies for an experimental field” and the Session of “Perspective technical systems in crop breeding and seed production”. The participants gave warmly discussions and comments on every presentation.
The Exhibition was held at VIM at the same time. The new and advanced equipment and instrument of field experiments from VIM, WINTERSTEIGER, ZURN, ZURN, HARDRUP and other companies were shown at VIM.

**The Exhibition of on Mechanization of Field Experiments (IAMFE/Russia'2017)**

The General Assembly of IAMFE/Russia'2017 was held at VIM on June 28, 2017. Thirteen delegates attended the Assembly. Prof. Shang Shuqi hosted the General Assembly of IAMFE. Prof. Wang Jiasheng gave the Report of the Executive Secretary of IAMFE 2012 – 2017. His Report was approved by the General Assembly of IAMFE. Election of the new Executive Committee of IAMFE for the period 2017-2021 was carried out: the President and the Executive Secretary of IAMFE and new members of the IAMFE Executive Committee were elected. Several important events and decisions about IAMFE also were discussed and passed at the Assembly. The following is the Memorandum of Understanding IAMFE 2017:

- As President of IAMFE, Prof. Shang Shuqi from China, was re-elected.
- As Vice President of IAMFE, Dr. Vladislav Minin from Russia was re-elected.
- As Executive Secretary of IAMFE, Dr. Wang Jiasheng from China was re-elected.
- As Honor President of IAMFE was elected Prof. Egil Oyjord, Norway.
- Establishing two new National Branches: South Korea National Branch of IAMFE and Belarus National Branch of IAMFE.
- As Members in the IAMFE Executive Committee (EC) were elected Prof. Valeriy Belyakov, Russia, Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski, Poland, Prof. Sun-Ok Chung, South Korea, Dr. Basareuski. A. N, Belarus, Prof. John Hampton, New Zealand, Prof. Chen Shaojiang, China, Prof. Shaban Abou-Hussein, Egypt.
- The International IAMFE Centre will still continue to be set in Qingdao Agricultural University, China.
- The 16th International Conference and Exhibition on Mechanization of Field Experiments will be arranged 2021 in South Korea.
Greetings from the Founder President

Dear Leaders, Members and Friends of the IAMFE Family

I have studied the Report of our 15th International IAMFE Conference and Exhibition on Mechanization of Field Experiments in Moscow (IAMFE/RUSSIA 2017) and I wish to congratulate the organizers with the great success of this important event.

I was very pleased to see that new and advanced equipment and instruments for field experiments from VIM, WINTERSTEIGER, ZURN, HALDRUP and other companies were shown at VIM.

I wish to express my gratitude to the President of IAMFE, Prof. Shang Shuqi and the Executive Secretary of IAMFE, Prof. Wang Jiasheng as well as the Vice President and Executive Director of the Russian Branch of IAMFE, Dr. Vladislav Minin for their great efforts for promotion of IAMFE since the 14th International IAMFE Conference and Exhibition (IAMFE/CHINA 2012).

I am very pleased with the re-election of the leaders of IAMFE for the next four years. It is also a great pleasure to welcome the new members of the Executive Committee of IAMFE.

I am very pleased with the increase of the IAMFE family and I welcome the Belarus National Branch of IAMFE and the Korean National Branch of IAMFE.

It is very great that South Korea will arrange an International IAMFE Conference and Exhibition in 2021.

I am very pleased that the International IAMFE Centre will continue at Qingdao Agricultural University.

I wish to congratulate Prof. Shang Shuqi with two great Chinese awards for his work.

I am flattered and very pleased with the honor given to me at IAMFE/RUSSIA 2017.

If I live so long, I will celebrate my 90th birthday in August 2018. It is 60 years since 1958 when I conceived the idea that agronomists, plant breeders and agricultural engineers should cooperate in mechanization of field experiments. In 1958 it is 60 years since the first Øyjord batch type plot seeder was used in plant breeding and variety trials in Norway. This Greetings is my "farewell to IAMFE". Thank you very much for your support and work for IAMFE.

My best wishes to all who will work for a future of IAMFE.


Egil Øyjord
The history of Øyjords batch type plot seeders which multiplied plant breeding in the world

1961. Norway was the first country in the world which started to use the world’s first multi-rows batch type plot seeders which were produced in series. The Øyjord plot seeders were designed for plant breeding of cereals and other crops and multiplied the breeders capacity of sowing of plots. The Øyjord plot seeders were also perfect for variety trials where 10m² plots and three replications have been used.

Professor emeritus Shisenbao, Beijing Agricultural University reported that in 1980 one person could hand plant 3-4 plots per person-hour. With the Øyjord plot seeder purchased in 1980, the capacity increased 25 times. 100 plots per person-hour was obtained with non-stop drilling of plots. See Mexico 1979 on Youtube Egil Øyjord

The same increase in efficiency was obtained in all developing countries.

From Sweden, a highly industrialized country, a report of 1991 from the plant breeding company Weibulsholm state: “The Øyjord machines have ment quicker(10-20 times) safer drilling of field experiments with less work, but with better quality of the experiments that followed”.

The Øyjord plot seeders were manufactured by Jens A. Schou Mek. Verksted, Drøbak, Norway.

Between 1960 and 1976 Øyjord batch type plot seeders for plant breeding and variety trials were exported from Norway to 57 countries all over the world. Orders came from all continents and the buyers expressed their satisfaction with the capacity and precision of the Øyjord plot seeders. In the period 1974-76, Mr. Jens A. Schou, decided to close his factory and move to Florida. During this period I transferred the right of production of my seeders to the Wintersteiger Company in Austria and Hans-Ulrich Hege in Germany.

In 2001, the Wintersteiger Company reported that they have sold 5000 units of the Øyjord batch type plot seeders since they took over the production in 1974-76.

In 2017, Dr. Vladislav Minin, Director of the Russian Branch of IAMFE, reported that several thousands of the Øyjord batch type plot seeders have been made in Russia since 1967 when the Soviet Union purchased 20 Øyjord plot seeders from Jens A. Schou Mek. Verksted, Norway.

In 2017, Professor Wang Jiasheng, Executive Secretary of IAMFE and the International IAMFE Centre on Mechanization of Field Experiments at Qingdao Agricultural University, reported that five Chinese manufacturers are delivering copies of the Øyjord batch type plot seeders.

A report from 2015 shows that Øyjord batch type plot seeders are in use in more than 130 countries in the world.

In 2017, The International Association on Mechanization of Field Experiments (IAMFE) represented by the President of IAMFE, Prof. Shang Shuqi and the Executive Secretary Prof. Wang Jiasheng, nominated Professor Egil Øyjord for the World Food Prize for his contribution to increased food production in the world by the development of the Øyjord plot seeders. This
nomination was supported by Prof. Song Xijun, President of Qingdao Agricultural University. The proposal was also supported by President Vladimir Popov and Executive Director, Dr. Vladislav Minin of “The Russian Branch of IAMFE” and Mr. Jon Mjærum, President of “The Norwegian Branch of IAMFE” and Dr. Hans-Joachim Braun, Director of Global Wheat Program, CIMMYT, Mexico.

The winner of the Nobel Peace Prize 1970. Dr. Norman E. Borlaug who established this prize called it: "The Nobel Prize in Agriculture".

The winner of this prize for 2017 was Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina, President of the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Minister of Agriculture in Nigeria 2011-2015.

It is a great honor to be among those who have been nominated for the “World Food Prize”.

**Professor Egil Øyjord has received the following awards of honor:**


1994.  At the celebration of the Ninth International IAMFE Conference and Exhibition on Mechanization of Field Experiments (IAMFE/CHINA ’94), the Chinese Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Liu Cheng Guo, presented a plaque to Professor Egil Øyjord with the following text: "Your outstanding contribution have brought the good name of ‘Øyjord’ to all over the world and most gratefully to China".

The Organizing Committee of IAMFE/China ’94 stood behind these words.

1994. Appointed Honorary Professor at Beijing Agricultural University. In 2013 the same honor was given from Qingdao Agricultural University, Shandong Province.

1998. Appointment as Prof. Dr. with a Mendel Medal from the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry, Brno, Czech Republic.


2004. Appointed Doctor of Honor (Dr. h.c.) at St. Petersbug State Agrarian University.


Videos of the various models of Øyjord plot seeders in operation are presented on YouTube Egil Øyjord.

Google:  [www.iamfe.org](http://www.iamfe.org) and [www.oyjord.org](http://www.oyjord.org)

Ås, 10. 10. 2017

Egil Øyjord