



Welcome to

NECTAR



Network for Environmental Chemistry
throughout the Asia Pacific Region

(The official homepage of the Federation of the
Asian Network for Environmental Chemistry ANEC)

This page is updated on an approximate quarterly basis. Send news of happenings in your country (coming conferences, courses or interesting findings in the field of environmental chemistry) to the editor, Dr. Ross Sadler at sadlerr@health.qld.gov.au. This is your page - let's show the world what environmental chemists in Asia can do!

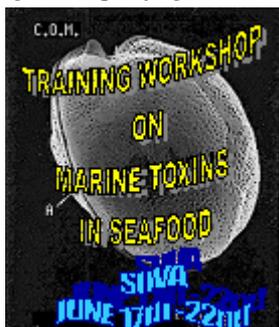
COMMONWEALTH SCIENCE COUNCIL

WORKSHOP TO STUDY MARINE SEAFOOD TOXINS

The toxins produced by marine dinoflagellates and diatoms represent a major threat to public health, the fishing industry and tourism throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Poisoning episodes are frequently associated with the so-called "red tides", which result from severe infestations of these organisms in tropical and sub-tropical waters. Some evidence exists to suggest that the problem may be increasing both in magnitude and geographic distribution.

Relatively little is known of the occurrence and distribution of dinoflagellate and diatom toxins throughout the Asia-Pacific region. There are periodic reports, suggestive of these varieties of poisoning, but an in-depth study is required if the problem is to be confronted at a regional level. In particular, levels of the causative organisms in water need to be related to levels of toxin in seafood and effects on animals.

For this reason, Commonwealth Science Council and the University of the South Pacific (Fiji) are jointly sponsoring a symposium on Marine Shellfish Toxins.



The symposium will be held at the University of the South Pacific's Fiji campus from June 17th - 21st and will feature lectures by several international authorities, demonstrations of analytical methods for toxins, field trips and invited papers. The workshop is open to scientists from both Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth countries. For further details, contact Professor Bill Aalbersberg at Aalbersberg@usp.ac.fj

Soil Contamination Research in Asia and the Pacific (SCRAP) Network was born on Wednesday 21 February 1996 in Adelaide during the First International Conference on "Contaminants and the Soil Environment in the Australasia-Pacific region". The network was created against a background of environmental concerns raised by the participating scientist from the Australasia-Pacific region. The major objective of the network is to raise the profile of environmental research in the region and where possible assist both the development of research and training needs of scientists within the region.

Some SCRAP Initiatives/Activities

Conferences/ Workshops

- 2nd International Conference on Contaminants and the Soil Environment - New Delhi. 12-17 December 1999.
- Workshop on "Towards Better Management of Wastes and Contaminated Sites in the Australasia-Pacific Region", Adelaide, 3-5 May 2000.
- International Workshop on "Chemical Bioavailability in the Terrestrial Environment", Adelaide, 18-20 November 2001.
- 3rd International Conference on Contaminants and the Soil Environment - Beijing. 2003 (Dates to be finalized).



Delegates at the Workshop on "Towards Better Management of Wastes and Contaminated Sites in the Australasia-Pacific Region", Adelaide, 3-5 May 2000

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