

Agri-Connection

Vol 2, Issue 3, June 2017



A quarterly newsletter of the Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA)



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President's Corner

Greetings for a Happy Festive Season 2074,

With immense pleasure, we sincerely thank those who worked tirelessly and diligently to ensure new members join NAPA, which, as of October 7, consists of 216 members. The coverage of NAPA's membership has expanded to 39 States in the US and Canada, Mexico, Nepal, and Australia. The number of potential members inquiring about NAPA and expressing their interest in contributing to it has significantly increased.

Along with members' contributions to various regular activities, NAPA is also blessed with generous donors for its specific initiatives, such as **Scholarship for Academic Excellence** program, donation for which has already exceeded 207,000 NRs. Similarly, NAPA has started an **Endowment Fund** to serve the community at times of emergency and collecting funds for this endeavor has already started.

Strongly supported by various sub-committees, **2018 Biennial Scientific Conference** Organizing Committee is coordinating with all members, potential individuals, and institutions. Please visit NAPA website (www.napaamericas.org) for updates and determine how you can contribute. We look forward to meeting you all in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at the 2018 NAPA Biennial Conference.

With great pleasure, we present to you the current issue of our quarterly newsletter '**Agri-Connection**' (AC). We are appreciative of the AC editorial team and contributors for their hard work. We also offer heartfelt thanks to all the dedicated and hardworking members for their contribution in expanding NAPA across the globe. Together we can make a difference.



Lila B. Karki, Ph.D.

Editorial Board

Dr. Ramesh C. Khanal
Editor-in-Chief

Editors:

Dr. Sanjay Lamsal

Dr. Toya Baral

In this issue

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2. Global Journal of Agricultural and Allied Sciences (GJAAS)
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Theme: Global Food Security through Agricultural Transformation

The first **NAPA Biennial 2018 Conference** focuses on securing food, feed, fuel, and fiber (F4) for ever increasing population through advanced agricultural innovations, best management practices, and environmentally friendly sustainable agricultural production systems with equitable distribution in a world of widening inequalities, increased climate variability, dynamic land-use, and volatile agricultural markets.

The NAPA Conference Organizing Committee (COC) is pleased to announce the theme "**Global Food Security through Agricultural Transformation**" for the Biennial Conference. Invited speakers and many concurrent sessions will be arranged to promote and celebrate this theme. However, the conference is open to submissions of abstracts on any topics related to agricultural and allied sciences. **This call solicits abstracts for oral and poster presentations.** Also, there will be separate competitive oral and poster presentation sessions for students. The first three winners of each of the student sessions will be recognized and awarded cash prize and a certificate of appreciation.

The abstract is limited to 300 words and must be submitted in MS word/pdf file. Please adhere to the following format:

Paper Title:

Author(s) and Affiliation(s):

Presenting Author:

Travel support needed: YES/NO

Discipline: Select the most applicable discipline area for your abstract from the list given below.

Keywords: Enter a maximum of five keywords.

Abstract: Please organize the abstract in order of introduction, objectives, method, results/expected results, and discussion/conclusion.

Disciplines:

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Agricultural/Resource/Production Economics, Agricultural Education and Extension, Agriculture and Technology Studies, Agronomy/Crop Sciences, Animal Science, Fisheries, Rural Social Sciences, Gender and Agriculture, Women in Farming, Migration, Remittances and Agriculture, Rural Livelihoods, Food and Nutrition Sciences, Food Security, Forestry and Agroforestry, Horticulture, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Research Methods and Agricultural Statistics, Sustainable Agriculture, Natural Resources, Plant Breeding/Applied Genetics, Agricultural Engineering, Application of Remote Sensing, GIS, and other closely related disciplines. Continued on next page.....

The abstract must be received by November 30, 2017 (11:59 pm ET). Any abstract received after the deadline will neither be guaranteed a spot in the conference nor be included in the conference proceedings. You can submit the abstract through the conference website: <http://napaamericas.org> or by an email to napaconference2018@gmail.com.

Notification of acceptance:

The submitted abstracts will be evaluated by the Scientific Sub-Committee. Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified via email by February 1, 2018.

Travel funding:

A limited number of travel grants is available to support students and young scholars from developing countries. To qualify for these travel grants, you must submit the abstract before the deadline and you must have your abstract accepted for presentation in the conference.

Outstanding presentation awards for students:

The association will select the outstanding first, second, and third place winners for both poster and paper presentations by students. The winners will receive cash prizes (First: \$250, Second: \$150 and Third: \$100) and plaques.

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Biennial Conference Co-chair and Chair, Scientific Sub-Committee, Professor Krishna P. Paudel at [<aalishaaayush@gmail.com>](mailto:aalishaaayush@gmail.com) and/or napaconference2018@gmail.com



NAPA looks forward to welcoming you all in Oklahoma City, OK on May 26-27, 2018.

Dr. Krishna P. Paudel
Co-Chair, NAPA 2018 Biennial Conference Organizing Committee
Chair, Scientific Sub-Committee



Greetings!!!

We wish the very best to all its members, well wishers, and everyone a **Happy Festive Season 2074**. May these auspicious and wonderful occasions bring you all the happiness, prosperity, and wellbeing in you and your loved ones.

~NAPA family



Book Publication Committee (BPC)

Dr. Drona P. Rasali
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Prem B. Bhandari
Editor/Member Secretary

Editors:

Dr. Megha N. Parajulee
Dr. Ram Acharya
Dr. Uma Karki
Dr. Raju Adhikari
Dr. Shanthi Johnson

Interaction on Book Publication

An interaction program among NAPA Book Publication Committee members and chapter authors was held recently. The book is entitled, “Sustainable, Sufficient, Safe and Healthy Food in Nepal: Principles and Practices of Food Security”.

Beginning from a welcome address from NAPA President Dr. Lila B. Karki, the Chair of the Book Publication Editorial Committee Dr. Drona P. Rasali shared the goals and objectives of the publication as well as the expectations of the committee.

Almost all the selected chapter authors (19 participants) from Australia, Canada, Nepal and USA enthusiastically attended the interaction program (on Zoom), shared their progress, and raised concerns and pertinent issues about the publication of such a book. The interaction program was a great success in terms of achieving its goals and identifying the areas of concern to move forward. For more information, please visit: <http://www.napaamericas.org/napa-book-project.php>.



Research/Policy Brief (RPB) Publication Committee

Dr. Bishwo Adhikari
Editor-in-Chief

Editors:

Dr. Suman Rimal Gautam
Dr. Ramji Ghimire

Research/Policy Brief (RPB)

NAPA is delighted to offer its very first issue of Research/Policy Brief (RPB1, 2017) to its valued members. It is a regular NAPA publication that focuses on policy issues or major research findings that may be relevant to our broader community. The first issue entitled, *Agricultural Education, Research, and Extension in Nepal: Role of Expatriates* is contributed by NAPA Vice President, Dr. Megha N. Parajulee can be found here http://www.napaamericas.org/downloads/policy_brief_1_final.pdf To contribute to this important publication, please contact Bishwo Adhikari at: adhikaribn@gmail.com

Working Paper Series Committee (WPS)

Dr. Dilip R. Panthee
Editor-in-Chief

Editors:

Dr. Raju R. Pandey
Dr. Prem Bhandari

Call for Working Papers

This is an announcement for the publication of Working Paper Series on agricultural and related disciplines. NAPA members are requested to submit their relevant work to Dr. Panthee. You may submit it in a journal article format such that it helps you publish with minimal effort later. Publishing as a working paper will not hinder you from future publication in any peer reviewed journal in any way whatsoever. It will in fact help you streamline your manuscript such that you will receive fewer reviewer comments for improvement. Please contact Dr. Panthee, Editor-in-Chief, at drpanthee@yahoo.com for further details.



IT Support Team

Mr. Santosh Aryal
Mr. Tanka Kafle
Mr. Sanjok Paudel
Mr. Bijesh Mishra



Source: www.narc.gov.np

Sunaule Sugandha (An aromatic rice variety)

Global Journal of Agriculture and Allied Sciences (GJAAS)

Editorial Board:

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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Pradeep Wagle
Editor/Member Secretary

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(Legal Advisor)

Global Journal of Agriculture and Allied Sciences (GJAAS)

A publication of the Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas



CALL FOR PAPERS!

Global Journal of Agricultural and Allied Sciences (GJAAS) Call for Papers

We are pleased to announce the publication of Inaugural Issue of **Global Journal of Agricultural and Allied Sciences (GJAAS)** (Online ISSN 2575-1670 and Print ISSN 2575-1662), a flagship publication of the Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas, by April 2018. We cordially invite you to submit your original (not published, submitted or under consideration anywhere) research or review articles on any topic related to agricultural and allied sciences to the journal for publication consideration. Refer to <http://napaamericas.org/journal-authors-guidelines.php> for publication guidelines. All submitted papers are subject to double-blind peer review.

We would also like to request you to forward this notice to your colleagues/researchers.



We look forward to receiving your submissions by **November 15, 2017** for the first issue, but the submissions are encouraged throughout the year for consideration in future issues.

Please contact at (gjaasjournal@gmail.com) or Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Megha N. Parajulee at m-parajulee@tamu.edu for further details.

Tri-Society Meeting in Tampa, Florida

NAPA members participating in the **Tri-society/ Specialty Group** meeting in Tampa, Florida on October 20-25, 2017 are requested to contact Dr. Upendra Man Sainju, the NAPA Advisor who is coordinating the meeting. He has reserved a room and is coming with lots of information about NAPA to share with you. You may contact him at **406-749-0123** or upendra.sainju@ars.usda.gov for further details. NAPA Treasurer and Chair, Membership Drive Committee, Ambika Tiwari is also participating in the meeting. You may also consult her at **850-345-5444** or ambikaadhikari100@gmail.com.

Tomato leaf miner (*Tuta absoluta*)

Tuta absoluta (Meyrick 1917) (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae), a devastating pest associated with solanaceous plants and native to South America has been recorded in Nepal. Details can be found at, <http://narc.gov.np/publication/pdf/newsletter/Vol%2023%20No.%202.pdf>.

**NAPA Conference 2018
Organizing Committee**

- Dr. Lila B. Karki
- Dr. Drona P. Rasali
- Dr. Krishna P. Paudel
- Dr. Pradeep Wagle
- Dr. Tanka Kandel
- Mr. Rajen Bajgain
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- Mr. Chandra K. Dhakal
- Mr. Devraj Poudel
- Dr. Nanda P. Joshi
- Dr. Lila K. Khatiwada

Talk Session Summary I

Current Status, Challenges and Opportunities of Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal

Dr. Ishwari Prasad Dhakal, Vice Chancellor (NAPA Advisor), Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal



The NAPA’s Fifth Talk Session on July 1, 2018 was both interesting and stimulating to professionals who are interested in contributing to the academia of Nepal. Agriculture & Forestry University (<http://www.afu.edu.np/>), established in 2010 as land grant model, aims at producing highly skilled human resources required to work on quality research and development in agriculture and allied discipline. Dr. Dhakal shared his thoughts on changing roles of higher education in agriculture of Nepal in the context of sustainable agricultural and forestry development from teaching, research, and extension perspectives. He also shared his vision for the future of AFU that has already produced thousands of mid and high level agricultural manpower serving nationally and internationally, major challenges of his times and his vision on how AFU should work on meeting these emerging challenges of the 21st century.

Dr. Dhakal shared his opinion about NAPA’s possible roles to address some of these challenges in a variety of ways such as distance teaching and student supervision, research, and publication. A large number of NAPA members attended the talk program.



NAPA Talk Session Summary II

How could Expatriates Contribute to Agricultural Research in Nepal? Experience at Michigan State University

Dr. Nanda P. Joshi (NAPA Advisor)
Michigan State University, East Lansing, USA

Dr. Joshi shared his experience on international collaboration at Michigan State University (MSU) about how the expatriates could contribute to agricultural research globally and in Nepal, particularly. However, his major focus was on his ongoing efforts in Nepal. He highlighted not only his vast experience at MSU and its long history of engagement in ongoing collaborations for the research and development of agriculture in Nepal, but also provided insights from other countries and how we could draw upon the resources to address the challenges Nepali agricultural professionals face in research, extension, and development.



Interested Volunteers are Welcome to Join Us

The NAPA Biennial Conference Organizing Committee would like to welcome interested volunteers to join us and share your expertise to enhance the collective strength to make the event a grand success. Please let the committee know your willingness to serve on any of the committees/events or if you have any questions by emailing at napaconference2018@gmail.com. Please note that there will be several important tasks and responsibilities that you can accomplish online in preparation of the conference. Your support is vital to NAPA’s success and your contribution is highly appreciated.



NAPA

Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas

Proudly announces the **SEVENTH** Talk Session On

Poverty Alleviation and Prosperity:

Strategy, Policies, and Programs

BY:

Dr. Y.B. THAPA

(NAPA Advisor)

When: Saturday, November 4, 2017

Time: NEPAL TIME 6:45 AM [Sunday, November 5]

Time: USA TIME 9:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

How to Join the Session?

Join from **PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android**: <https://zoom.us/j/734612690>

Or **iPhone** one-tap (US Toll): +16468769923,,734612690# or +16699006833,,734612690#

Or **Telephone**: Dial: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968, Meeting ID: 734 612 690

Respected NAPA members and beyond

Greetings!

I cordially invite you to attend the upcoming NAPA's **SEVENTH** talk session. Please do not miss the opportunity to interact in a live discussion forum on '**Poverty Alleviation and Prosperity**'. Join us to add value on our collective strength and resource pool.

Together, we can make a difference.

Respectfully,

Lila B Karki, PhD
President, NAPA

Talk Summary

Dr. Y. B. Thapa will talk about '*Poverty Alleviation and Prosperity: Strategy, Policies, and Programs*' to support economically disadvantaged communities towards entrepreneurship, skilled employment and transformations using the framework of multi-dimensional poverty indices. He will highlight poverty rates/trends in relation to the occupational patterns and labour market; economic growth rates by industry in relation to product market and trade; investment patterns by agency and industry in relation to the fiscal/monetary policy, and financial markets, and poverty reduction approaches in Nepal and her neighbors with a focus on the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) implementation mechanism, and institutional capital. Similarly, he will also discuss the linkages among poverty, employment, social protection, and investment with particular emphasis on the role of agriculture, food, and nutrition activities, and other basic services.

Speaker: Dr. Thapa holds M.Sc in Agriculture and PhD in Economics. He is Vice-Chair, Poverty Alleviation Fund, and Adjunct Professor, Agriculture and Forestry University. He has worked in the capacity of Member, National Planning Commission, and Poverty Alleviation Specialist for SAARC. He is the current President, Nepal Agri-Economics Society, and Editor-in-Chief of Nepalese Journal of Agricultural Economics.





NAPA SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE Call for Sponsorship

Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA) (www.napaamericas.org) announces a *Call for Sponsors* from interested individuals/families towards establishing **NAPA Scholarships for Academic Excellence**. This **Scholarship** is established with the goal of supporting diligent and qualified students from academic institutions that offer courses in agricultural sciences in Nepal. These institutions include but not limited to:

- Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU)
- Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science (IAAS, Tribhuvan University)
- Himalayan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (HICAST)
- Other universities, colleges, polytechnic institutions, and schools of agricultural sciences.

About Sponsorship

Sponsors, in consultation with the **NAPA Scholarship Committee** under the chairmanship of President, will have an opportunity to name the scholarship (e.g., sponsor's name, beloved ones, or any other professionally appropriate names). For information to sponsors, current meritorious scholarship amount is NRs 6,000 (Six Thousand Nepali Rupees) per year and freeship amount is NRs 3,800 (Three Thousand and Eight Hundreds Nepali Rupees) per year at AFU. In addition, other scholarships of any amounts may be established as per the interest of sponsors.

Criteria for Scholarship Recipients

Scholarship recipients may be selected based on academic excellence (within specified caste/ethnicity, gender, and region or any other academic criteria envisaged by sponsors). Sponsors will have the opportunity to name of the scholarship and define selection criteria, in consultation with NAPA Scholarship Committee, or sponsors may grant the selection authority to NAPA. NAPA will select recipients in consultation with the recipient institutions as per the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between NAPA and the scholarship recipient institutions. NAPA will proudly coordinate with the target institutions to formalize the scholarship.

We, hereby, request all interested individuals/families and institutions to show your generosity by sponsoring at least one or more or any amount of scholarships for a cause. As of September, 2017, more than twelve sponsors have pledged scholarships of a total of over 200,000 Nepali Rupees annually. Drop by drop fills a pot. Your generous donation is our inspiration to serve the community back home.

Your Pledge and Required Information

Interested sponsors are requested to pledge your scholarship by providing the following information to NAPA at: napa2072@gmail.com.

- Name of sponsor(s)
- Contact information of sponsor(s)
- Name of scholarship(s)
- Amount of each scholarship(s)
- Number of scholarship(s)
- Desired institution(s) in Nepal for this scholarship
- Criteria for each scholarship recipient.

NAPA appreciates your generosity and support. If you have any questions, please contact NAPA Scholarship Committee at: napa2072@gmail.com.

NAPA Endowment Fund

It is our pleasure to see NAPA moving forward with many ongoing and exciting activities. Accordingly, our community is also growing steadily, with membership comprising from a wide range of agricultural and allied disciplines and geographical regions. Foreseeing NAPA's further expansion over time, it is imperative that we have a system of regular funding sources to ensure continued NAPA activities including emergency funds to support unforeseen events, such as the recent Louisiana flooding and Georgia car crash that affected our members. Such financial safety can be achieved via a carefully managed fund. Therefore, we now announce to establish a NAPA Endowment Fund. The Fund will be utilized as per the decision of the NAPA executive committee. Any NAPA members and interested generous individuals may contribute to this fund. Regulatory mechanism of the Fund will be developed and adopted by the NAPA executive committee in consultation with Advisory Council. Contributions toward this endowment will be recognized as below:



1. NAPA Contributor: Any amount an individual or institution would like to contribute.
2. NAPA Regular Contributor: \$1 daily, \$5 weekly, \$20 monthly, \$100 bi-annually, \$180 annually for a fixed term, or any amount an individual would like to contribute to this cause.
3. Tiered recognition level donation for the NAPA Endowment Fund:
 - ≥\$1,000: Platinum Sponsor
 - \$700-\$999: Gold Sponsor
 - \$500-\$699: Silver Sponsor
 - \$300-\$499: Bronze Sponsor
 - \$100-\$299: Green Sponsor
 - <\$100: Supporter
4. A donor can make multiple donations over time and the tiered recognition level will be changed to reflect this. For example, a Bronze Sponsor (donation amount \$ 300) can move to become a Silver Sponsor after making an additional donation of at least \$200 in the future.
5. Anyone may also make a material donation and/or a fixed property donation.

Every dollar counts. You will be identified as a generous contributor to make this happen as per NAPA's vision. We are sure everyone will make a generous contribution towards our common goal. Please do note that all such contributions would be tax exempt in the USA.

NAPA Scholarship for Academic Excellence Sponsors

Ambika-Khusiram Tiwari
Bharat Mani-Sarala Risal
Gopi Upreti
Kemika Bhandari
Krishna Paudel
Lekha-Pratibha Paudel
Mandira-Ramesh Khanal
Megha-Sharmila Parajulee
Monika-Pradeep Wagle
Sujeet-Srijana Sah
Surendra Osti
Usha-Prem Bhandari
Uma-Lila Karki

For details please visit NAPA website.

Your Contribution to NAPA is Tax Deductible

Founded in 2016 and incorporated (Certificate ID: 10668534#BRK73) under the laws of the Secretary of State of the State of Louisiana (LA), USA, NAPA is a non-profit, non-governmental, non-religious, and non-political professional organization dedicated to serve mankind through educational, scientific, and developmental initiatives. NAPA was officially registered on January 6, 2016. Effective January 6, 2016, Internal Revenue Service of the United States government has determined NAPA as an entity exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Now any contributions made to NAPA to will be tax deductible under IRC Section 170.

NAPA Vice President on University Leadership

NAPA Vice President Megha Parajulee, who has been recently voted to be on the Texas A&M University *Advanced Leadership Executive Committee* for 2017-2019, visited with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue at the annual meeting of Southwest Council of Agribusiness. Parajulee serves as Cotton Entomology Program Leader for Texas A&M University AgriLife Research and overseas cropping systems management for 4.0 million acres of cotton in west Texas.



शून्यतामा हराएको मेरो गाउँघर

माधव अर्याल, एन आर्बर, मिचिगन

भन्नु खै कसरी शरीर छ यहाँ, मन डुल्ल आपनै घर
जन्मी हुकेको गाउँ पानी पँधेरो, भुल्ल कहाँ सकुछ र ।
गाउँको स्कूल त्यो, छ चौतारो अभै मन्दिर र पौवा तर
बसाइँ सदा सबै सहरतिर अचेल, शून्य भो गाउँघर ।

युवायुवती छैन गाउँमा अचेल, न बाल बच्चा कतै
आमा बाबु ती वृद्ध केही घरमा, बाँकीमा ताल्चा सबै ।
वृद्ध आश्रम लाग्छ गाउँ जो अचेल, के गर्नु आशै पनि
पाउने मुस्किल भो मलामी नि कठै, उठाउन लासै पनि ।

भुल्दा धान पहेंलो गैरी खेतमा लाग्थ्यो कति सुन्दर
खेत बारी सबै छ बाँभो रे अचेल, तोरी कहाँ फुल्छ र ?
पाक्दा आँप अनि बेलौती रुखमा, टिप्ने यहाँ को छ र ?
माली गाई नि छैन गोठमा अचेल, दूध पो कहाँ मिल्छ र ?

कलकल बग्दछ स्वच्छ पानी भरना, पिउने यहाँ को छ र ?
पानी बोतलको किनी सहरमा, तिर्खा कहाँ मेट्छ र ?
गाउँको आटो पिठो त्यो गुन्द्रुक मीठो, आजकल त लाग्दैन रे
ढिडो पाक्दछ रे सहरमा अचेल, गाउँघरमा पाक्दैन रे ।

न त मादल बज्छ गाउँमा अचेल, डम्फु नि बज्दैन रे
भ्याउरे भाका मीठो त्यो रोदी घरको, आजकल त चल्दैन रे ।
कोइलीले गीत गाउँदैन रे अचेल, मयुर नि नाच्दैन रे
गाउँ शून्य देखेर शोकमा अचेल, हिमाल नि हाँस्दैन रे ।



Krishna P. Paudel's Candidacy for SAEA President

We are pleased to share the notice that Dr. Krishna P. Paudel, Professor of Agricultural Economics at Louisiana State University and a NAPA member, is nominated for the candidacy of President of Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA). Dr. Paudel has contributed greatly to establish NAPA and is now serving as Co-Chair of the NAPA Biennial Conference 2018 and Chair of Scientific Sub-committee. It is an honor for NAPA to see its active members seek the highest office of their professional organizations. NAPA encourages all its members to strive for the highest level of achievement in their respective disciplinary professional organizations. Our best wishes to Dr. Paudel as SAEA selects its next leader. Those who are interested in becoming SAEA member (<https://www.saea.org/payments/>) and/or learn more about Dr. Paudel's candidacy for SAEA President may contact him at kpaudel@lsu.edu. The SAEA voting period continues through the end of October 2017.





Call for Students' Writing Contest

NAPA-Student Coordination Committee is pleased to announce 2018 college and university students' essay writing contest. A full time student enrolled in a college including community or vocational college, and/or university around the globe pursuing a degree in agricultural or related field¹ is eligible to participate.

Essay Topic: *Global Food Security through Agricultural Transformation*

General guidelines:

- ◆ The essay should be written in English language.
- ◆ The essay must be author's own work and should attest it by inserting a statement followed by his/her name.
- ◆ The essay should follow a standard academic essay structure and format including an introduction, body of supporting arguments and a conclusion.
- ◆ The essay can be developed based on student's own experience, online research, and literature review.
- ◆ The essay will be disqualified for the competition if any evidence of plagiarism is established. The committee is strict against plagiarism and advise each candidate to avoid engaging in such plagiarism.
- ◆ The essay should not exceed 3,000 words, excluding footnotes, tables, figures and references, and should be formatted double-spaced.
- ◆ The essay should have author's name, affiliated university, degree program, mailing address, and email with a proof of student's status e.g. ID card or unofficial transcript.
- ◆ A pdf copy of the essay can be submitted electronically via email at napa2072@gmail.com. The deadline for submission is February 28, 2018.
- ◆ Only one essay can be submitted per contestant.

- ◆ The results will be announced by the first week of April 2018.

- ◆ The first, second and third place winners will be awarded plaques and cash prizes of **\$300, \$200 and \$100** respectively at NAPA Biennial Conference on May 26-27, 2018 at Biltmore Hotel, 401 S. Meridian Ave., Oklahoma City OK, 73108 USA. Therefore, winners are encouraged to be present at the award distribution ceremony.



If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Chair, **2018 Student Writing Contest Sub-committee, Dr. Bharat Pokharel** at bharat.pokharel@gmail.com and/or napaconference2018@gmail.com.

¹Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Agricultural/Resource/Production Economics, Agricultural Education and Extension, Agricultural Sciences and Technology Studies, Agronomy, Animal Science, Fisheries, Rural Social Sciences, Gender and Agriculture, Migration, Remittances and Agriculture, Rural Livelihoods, Food and Nutrition Sciences, Food Security, Forestry and Agro-forestry, Horticulture, Plant Protection, Research Methods and Agricultural Statistics, Sustainable Agriculture, Natural Resources, and other related disciplines.

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Dr. Lekhanath Poudel
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Language Editors (LE)

Dr. Yuba Raj Aryal,
English

Mr. Bimal Acharya,
Nepali

How to join NAPA ?

We would like to invite all agricultural professionals around the globe to join NAPA and contribute to achieve its objectives. You may send an application to napa2072@gmail.com or ambikaadhikari100@gmail.com. Required fee may be paid through PayPal, credit/debit card or by sending a check to the Treasurer, Ambika Tiwari. Make sure to specify the **purpose** of the payment (e.g, Membership Fee) in the “additional information” box when pay through PayPal.



Regular or General (\$50.00 for two years): Individuals who hold at least an undergraduate or bachelors or equivalent degree in agriculture or allied areas shall meet the requirements of this category.

Student (\$25.00 for two years): Current students of agricultural and allied areas of studies who are at good standing student's status.

Life Membership (\$500.00 One time): Individuals having met regular/general member's category and pays defined dues at a time.

Joint/Family/Spouse Membership (\$15.00 for two years): Spouse of a member of any of the five categories (regular/general, student, life, honorary, and associate), who is not eligible for other categories of membership. Family member shall not have a voting right.

Associate Membership (\$50.00 for two years, \$500 for Associate Life member): Interested individuals who do not qualify for membership types above. Associate member shall not have a voting right and shall not be eligible Executive Committee member. An Associate member may qualify for Associate Life member with the necessary payment. Associate Membership from Nepal: One-time membership fee (Life Associate Members) of NRs. 5000 for those who are serving in Nepal to join NAPA as Associate members.

Honorary (No fee, but free to contribute any): Individuals having outstanding achievement in academic and professional career and contribution to the field of agriculture and allied areas around the globe.

Update on NAPA membership status

SN	Member Name	State/Country
Regular Members		
1	Balkrishna Regmi	Maryland
2	Resham Gharti	Texas
3	Thakur B. Karki	North Carolina
4	Bharat Pokhrel	Tennessee
5	Lila Khatiwada	Indiana
6	Prem Sangraula	Virginia
7	Sanjay K. Gami	New York
8	Bidur Khatri	California
9	Bhawani Mishra	Missouri
10	Govinda Shrestha	Montana
11	Diwakar Dahal	Illinois
12	Buddhi Prasad Lamsal	Indiana
13	Santosh Kumar Ojha	Alabama
Student Members		
1	Suman Lamichhane	Virginia
2	Mahendra Bhandari	Texas
3	Sonu Koirala B K	Alabama
4	Shailes Bhattra	Alabama
5	Amit Sharma	Kentucky
6	Ranjana Rawal	Ohio
7	Kshitiz Dhakal	West Virginia
8	Hari Krishna Poudel	Missouri
9	Basu Kafle	Alabama
10	Sadikshya Sharma	Florida
11	Gaurab Bhattarai	Missouri
12	Santosh Dhakal	Ohio
Joint Members		
1	Kusum Aryal Regmi	Maryland
2	Manju Sangraula	Virginia
Associate Members		
1	Chandra Puri	Nepal



Total Members as of October 7, 2017	
Member Type	Number
Life	5
Regular	90
Joint	14
Student	91
Associate	16
Total	216

New Membership: Since Previous Issue	
Member Type	Number
Regular	13
Joint	2
Student	12
Associate	1
Total	28

NAPA Mission

To foster/enhance the quality of life of human kind and environment through scientific research, capacity building, dissemination and charitable activities.

Judging the Health of Your Dining Table or Shopping Cart

“Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food.” - Hippocrates

If you wish to judge the health of your dining table, the easiest way is to see how colorful it is. Colorfulness of the food displayed on the dining table is not just beautiful and pleasing to your eyes, it is also pleasing to your overall health and wellbeing. Colors present in fruits, vegetables, and grains contain powerful phytonutrients, antioxidants, and other beneficial components for your overall health. If we eat healthy, the food itself works as medicine and when medicine is your very food, that is healthy to your wallet too. So, next time you go grocery shopping, make sure you have naturally colorful items filling your cart.

Member News, Publications, and Accomplishments



Publications: (*NAPA members)

Prem B. Bhandari* , and Loritta Chan. 2017. “Socio-cultural Inequality in Women's Health Service Utilization in Nepal.” *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*, 31 (2): 45-73.

Jessica Pearlman, Lisa D. Pearce, Dirgha J. Ghimire*, Prem Bhandari* and Taylor Hargrove. 2017. Community, Household, and Individual Factors Related to Post-Marital Living Arrangements in Historically Patrioal Settings. *Demography*. 54:1425–1449; DOI: 10.1007/s13524-017-0588-9.

Nishan Bhattarai*, Pradeep Wagle*, Prasanna H. Gowda, and Vijaya G. Kakani. 2017. Utility of Remote Sensing-based Surface Energy Balance Models to Track Water Stress in Rain-fed Switchgrass under Dry and Wet Conditions. *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing* 133: 128-141.

Peetambar Dahal*, Durga D. Paudel*, and Krishna Belbase: High and Dry: Keeping Food Safe and Available during Natural Disasters is as Important as Rescue Efforts, <http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2017-09-03/high-and-dry-20170903074302.html>.

This is an op-ed previously published in The Kathmandu Post on September 3, 2017. Its link is shared among NAPA members and broader audience in Nepal because of its great relevance when it comes to flooding and keeping food grains safe. Opinions expressed here are those of the authors.

Congratulations:

Dr. Lila K. Khatiwada, a monitoring and evaluation specialist at the University of Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development (NDIGD), has won the Rural Sociological Society’s (RSS) second annual Ralph B. Brown Scholar Paper Competition for a paper examining the impact of clean cookstoves in rural Uganda. Further details at: <https://research.nd.edu/news/ndigd-researchers-paper-on-clean-cookstoves-in-uganda-wins-rural-sociological-society-competition/>



NAPA Joint Secretary Dr. Pradeep Wagle has been promoted from GS-11 to GS-12 level Scientist (effective October 1, 2017) by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Congratulations Dr. Wagle.

NAPA member and Vice-President Dr. M.N. Parajulee at Texas A&M has co-developed two cultivars of cotton that are partially resistant against thrips. Congratulations Dr. Parajulee .



OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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