

About ISRA

The Senegalese Institute of Agricultural Research (**ISRA**) is a Public Institution with a Scientific and Technologic mission (EPST). It was created in November 1974 to design, organize and carry out applied research for agriculture development in Senegal.

Missions:

i) Generate appropriate knowledge and technologies through agricultural research programs to ensure food security and to alleviate poverty;

(ii) Promote training of researchers, technical staff and other beneficiaries including farmer organizations and the private sector in rural development;

(iii) Strengthen scientific cooperation at national, sub-regional and international levels; iv) Lead project studies in agriculture funded by investors.

Research Areas

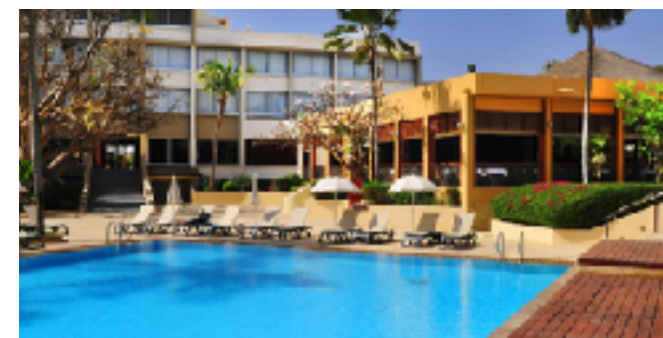
Plant and Animal Production, Forestry, Fishery, Agricultural Policies and Rural Socio-Economy

Scientific and technical potential

ISRA has currently five hundred and twenty-five (525) staff members, including researchers, research fellows, administrative and technical staff, research technicians and support staff.



**International Conference
(AAGB – 2018)
Palm Beach Saly, Senegal
November 12 – 16, 2018, Organized by
ISRA
in collaboration with The Peanut
Foundation**



The Peanut Genome Initiative (PGI)

The Peanut Genome Initiative is a committed step by the international research community to meet the needs of the peanut industry through genomics and biotechnology.



Background

The legume peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.), also known as groundnut, is one of the world's most important oilseed and food crops. Its cultivation is mostly confined to the tropical, subtropical and warm temperate countries with the major production in Asia and Africa. Peanut is a primary source of food and income in developing countries, in particular for rural families, and it represents an excellent cash crop for domestic markets or foreign trade.

In the context of climate change, increasing demographic pressure and dwindling natural resources, the production of this grain legume faces serious threats. The international research community is faced with the responsibility of developing new groundnut varieties that meet higher yield and quality standards. This demands improved communication between scientists and stakeholders.



During this last decade, the peanut research community has made stellar progresses. The genome sequences of several peanut wild diploid relatives are now available as well as high throughput genotyping resources and the assembling of the tetraploid genome is completed. These recent advances need to be translated into application, particularly in Africa, in order to be a real game changer for the scientists working on peanut. With this vision, the 10th Advances in Arachis through Genomics and Biotechnology (AAGB-2018) will be organized in Senegal in order to favor the participation of African scientists that have fewer opportunities to attend international conferences and consequently are less exposed to the advances made on genomic and molecular genetics. Additionally, the conference will include researchers from broader fields, to discuss how to improve the adaptation, productivity, quality and safety issues using modern genomics and biotechnology tools. The conference will be organized under well-structured technical sessions that will include invited lectures by eminent speakers in the fields of Breeding, Genomics, Allelic Diversity, Germplasm Enhancement, Genomic Resources, Biotic and Abiotic Stresses, and Product Quality and Safety. There will also be a poster exhibition on these major themes. Excursions and sight seeing tours will also be arranged. The Organizing Committee is endeavoring to make this event scientifically rewarding and socially enjoyable.

Date and Venue

AAGB-2018 will held from 12 to 16 November 2018 at Palm Beach hotel (<http://www.palmbeach.sn/>), Saly, Senegal. November corresponds to the end of the rainy season and the weather should be hot, but pleasant.



Call for Abstracts

The Organizing Committee invites scientists/students to participate and make poster presentations at the research conference. A slot of 2 hours every day has been dedicated for poster sessions and discussions. Abstracts of maximum 250 words should be submitted electronically, in Microsoft WORD format, by e-mail to: tom_stalker@ncsu.edu (please mention "Abstract for AAGB-2018" in the subject line of the mail). See <http://www.isra.sn/aagb2018/> for format.

Schedule of important deadlines

- **Submission of Abstract: August 15, 2018**
- **Remittance of Registration Fees: 15 August 2018**

Registration Fees (\$US)

- **Early bird registration : \$450**
- **Late registration: \$500**
- **Student: \$100**