1ST ASIAN SYMPOSIUM
ON LACTIC ACID BACTERIA IN RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY

... about those bacteria with big attraction all over the world.

27-28 August 2008
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Asian Federation of Societies for Lactic Acid Bacteria (AFSLAB)
Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Mongolia
Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences of Mongolia
Mongolian State University of Agriculture

Visit the symposium website at http://asialab2008.wordpress.com!
Welcome to the 1st Asian Symposium on Lactic Acid Bacteria in Research and Industry

Place: Chinggis Khan Hotel, Ulaanbaatar city, Mongolia
Date: 27-28 August, 2008

Dear Colleagues,

at the Fourth Asian Conference on Lactic Acid Bacteria, which was organized by the Asian Federation of Societies for Lactic Acid Bacteria (AFSLAB) and held in Shanghai in 2007, the EB of the AFSLAB permitted the proposal of Mongolian LAB-researchers to organize the “2008 Asian Symposium on Lactic Acid Bacteria in Research and Industry” in Mongolia. We are very happy about that not only because it is the first international event specified on LAB research that is organized in Mongolia, but also because 2008 was officially claimed as the Year of Food Supply and Food Security by the Government of Mongolia and also, the Mongolian State University of Agriculture is celebrating its 50th anniversary in the coming fall.

The symposium will provide an opportunity for researchers, experts and practitioners from Asian countries in the field of microbiology to exchange information on research and industrial application of LAB, and to discuss future perspectives. It will also allow you to come to a country, which has a longtime tradition of fermenting milk products. The symposium will, in the end, allow us to strengthen the AFSLAB-network by both promoting the existing relationships and establishing new connections.

We encourage authors to submit their papers pertaining to the scope of the symposium, describing original work, reporting research results and/or indicating future directions. Accepted papers will be presented at the conference by one of the authors and published in the proceedings. Acceptance will be based on quality, relevance and originality.

We will make sure that you enjoy your stay in Ulaanbaatar. Being the capital of a country, which is known to be the home of Central Asian nomads, Ulaanbaatar will fascinate you with its unique combination of old and modern, fashionable and traditional. There is a wide range of modern, renovated and quiet hotels to choose from. On this site you can find information about the hotel prices and availability. The symposium will be held at the Chinggis Khan hotel, which is located in the centre of Ulaanbaatar.

Following the symposium, there is a variety of social events. You can enjoy a night of fine food and open-minded conversation at the Symposium Dinner. A guided tour in Ulaanbaatar will allow you to see the sights and to become a witness of the changes that have been taking place along with the opening of the country to foreign investors. A guided tour to the countryside will allow you to enjoy virgin nature and to see the lifestyle of nomadic people, and their traditional methods of milk fermentation.

If you have any queries, feel free to contact us at asialab2008@gmail.com. We hope that you will be able to join us.

Sincerely,
Mr. Prof. Dr. Shirchin Demberel
Chairman of the Organizing Committee
Vice-President of the Mongolian State University of Agriculture, Head of the Council of Agricultural Sciences
About the Symposium

Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB) are widespread in nature, being usually found in decomposing plants and lactic products, and have been used worldwide to ferment or culture foods as well as in human and veterinary medicine for thousands of years. Every nation has traditional methods of using LAB for different purposes such as fermenting dairy products, pickling vegetables, baking, winemaking and curing fish, meat and sausages. This is particularly obvious in Asian countries, where a huge variety of fermented products, of both animal and herbal origin, from traditional processing methods is available, including specialities like kimchi (Korea), tape (Indonesia and Malaysia) and puto (Philippines). Mongolia is another Asian country with a longtime tradition of fermenting milk products including yoghurt, cheese, butter, buttermilk, kefir and koumiss to name but a few.

Along with the technological advances in the recent years, the capacities and methods of both research and industrial application of LAB have been greatly improved. Bio products in general and probiotic foods in particular are increasingly demanded worldwide in response to the demands of an increasingly health-conscious public. Thus, there are considerable business opportunities for exploiting LAB.

Given the growing importance of LAB, Asian microbiologists founded the Asian Federation of Societies for Lactic Acid Bacteria (www.afslab.org) as a forum for interflowing and discussion for experts from LAB-related industrial and academic circle in 2000. The major academic activity of the AFSLAB has been to organize biennial conferences since 2001. The previous four conferences offered great opportunities for exchange between Asian LAB-researchers and significantly contributed to an improvement of their collaboration.

This time, we decided to organize a symposium between the fifth and the sixth AFSLAB conferences in Mongolia. We do hope that the symposium will make its contribution to the further development of the AFSLAB-network.

Aim

The main purpose of the symposium is to enable Asian researchers to exchange and disseminate information related to research and industrial utilization of LAB. Strategic goals of the symposium include strengthening the 8-year old network of the AFSLAB and bringing research and industry in the field of LAB-research closer. We will be happy if the participants connect with each other, share information and ideas, catch up with existing developments and take home fresh ideas to implement in their professional and academic context.

Place and Date

The 2008 Asian symposium on Lactic Acid Bacteria in Research and Industry will take place on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th August 2008 at the hotel Chinggis Khan in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Language

The symposium will be conducted in English.

Publications

Full papers of keynote lectures and abstracts of accepted papers and posters will be published in the proceedings of the symposium under an ISBN reference.
Call for Papers

Abstract deadline: Abstracts not exceeding 300 words must be written in English. The deadline for Abstract Submission is the 15st June 2008.

Topics of interest include but they are not limited to:

1. Development and Application of LAB
2. Metabolism and functionality of LAB
3. Genetics and molecular biology of LAB
4. Traditional Application of fermented products in human and veterinary medicine

We would very appreciate it if you would send your abstract coupled with a short introduction of yours, which should include the following information:

* Full Name,
* Academic degree,
* Name of Organization,
* your Position,
* Address,
* Phone and Fax numbers, and
* Email address.

You will receive an e-mail confirming the receipt. In case you do no receive a confirmation e-mail, please re-send your abstract to asialab2008@gmail.com.

Abstracts will be selected and approved by the appointed academic committee. All successful presenters will be informed by 25th June 2008 by email. Full papers then will be required by 15th July 2008. Before submitting your paper please read the author guidelines.

Poster contributions are also encouraged. Please prepare your posters in English and bring them with yourself. If this is not possible, please contact us.

The author guidelines for both papers and posters are attached as a separate “Author Guidelines.doc” file.

Full papers of the keynote lectures and abstracts of accepted papers and posters will be published in the symposium proceedings, under an ISBN reference.

Programme

Below you can see the schedule of the symposium.

The symposium includes a poster exhibition.
Wednesday, the 27th August 2008

8.30 – 9.30 Registration

9.30 – 10.00 Inauguration Speeches
- Representatives from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture;
- Prof. Dr. Shirchin Demberel, Chairman of the Symposium Org.Committee;
- Prof. Dr. Ying-Chieh Tsai, President of the AFSLAB.

10.00 – 12.30 Keynote Lectures
- “Forefront Research on Lactic Acid Bacteria in Japan”, Prof. Dr. Fusao Tomita;
- “The Molecular Signaling Pathways Involve in the Modulation of Host Innate Immunity by Intestinal Lactic Acid Bacteria”, Prof. Dr. Yuan-Kun Lee;
- “Therapeutic and Preventive Effects of Traditional Fermented Milk Products in Mongolia”, Prof. Dr. Shirchin Demberel;
- “Health Benefits of Lactic Acid Bacteria in Kimchi”, Prof. Dr. Kun-Young Park;
- “Exploring Beneficial Lactic Acid Bacteria and Yeast Strains From Airag and Tarag, Traditional Fermented Milk Products by Nomads in Mongolia”, Dr. Koichi Watanabe.

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch Break

13.30 – 16.00 Thematic Sessions
1. Development and Industrial Application of LAB
2. Metabolism and Functionality of LAB
3. Genetics and Molecular Biology of LAB
4. Traditional ways of LAB-Application and Their Benefits from a Contemporary View

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.00 Thematic Sessions

18.00 End of the Official Program of the First Day

19.00 – 21.00 Welcoming Dinner, hosted by the Minister of Food and Agriculture

Thursday, the 28th August 2008

9.00 – 15.00 Guided Tour to Countryside, which aims to show our guests the following:
- Traditional methods of milk fermentation,
- Mongolian tradition and culture,
- “Ger” the mobile dwelling of nomads,
- Mongolian cuisine, and
- Horse racing.

15.00 – 16.00 Rest Time

16.00 – 19.00 Free Time or Guided Tour in the Ulaanbaatar City

19.00 - … Symposium Dinner
The Keynote Speakers

Prof. Dr. Fusao Tomita (Japan)

Ph.D. McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada

- Director and Professor, Hokkaido Study Center, The Open University of Japan
- Emeritus Professor, Hokkaido University
- Member at large, Japan Academy of Science
- Science and Technology Advisor, A-HITBio Inc.
- Executive Director, Hokkaido T.L.O. Co. Ltd.
- Asian Ambassador, International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS)
- Executive Director and Chairperson of the Sub-Committee for International Affairs, Japan Bioindustry Association
- Chairperson of the Biotechnology Division, Japan Society for New Development of Chemistry
- Advisor, Japan Society for New Chemistry Development
- Senate, Japan Society for Microbial Ecology
- President, Hokkaido Bioindustry Association
- Senate, Institute for Fermentation Research, Osaka
- Chairperson, Committee for Promotion of Food Industry in Hokkaido
- IEBC-Member of the Asian Federation of Societies for Lactic Acid Bacteria (AFSLAB)

Prof. Dr. Yuan-Kun Lee (Singapore)

Ph.D. University of London (Queen Elizabeth College)

- Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore
- President of Singapore Society for Microbiology & Biotechnology
- Vice President of the Asian Federation of Societies for Lactic Acid Bacteria (AFSLAB)

Prof. Dr. Kun-Young Park (Korea)

Ph.D. University of Nebraska

- Post Doc. Harvard University

- Director, Kimchi Research Institute, Pusan National University, Korea
- President of Korea Kimchi Association
- President of Korea Society of Cancer Prevention
- Dean, College of Human Ecology, Pusan National University
Dr. Koichi Watanabe (Japan)
Ph.D. Tokyo University of Agriculture
Deputy of Senior Researcher,
Department Head of Examination and Application Research,
Head of Culture Collection and Microbial Systematics
Yakult Institute for Microbiological Research, Tokyo

Prof. Dr. Shirchin Demberel (Mongolia)
Ph.D. Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest
- Vice-President of Mongolian State University of Agriculture
- Professor, School of Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology,
  Mongolian State University of Agriculture
- Head of the Council of Agricultural Sciences of Mongolia
- Member of the Subassembly “Biology and Agricultural Sciences”,
  Mongolian Academy of Sciences
- Professor, Buryat State Agricultural Academy (Russia)
- Member of the Moscow State Academy of Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology,
- IEBC-Member of the Asian Federation of Societies for Lactic Acid Bacteria

The Organizing Committee

The symposium is hosted by the Mongolian State University of Agriculture (MSUA) and jointly
sponsored by the MSUA, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Ministry of Education,
Culture and Sciences of Mongolia. The Organizing Committee consists of the following persons:

1. Chairman: Prof. Dr. Shirchin Demberel, Vice-President of MSUA
2. Secretary: Dr. Baoa Erdenebolor, Director of Extension Center
3. Member: Dr. Gombo Gantulga, Associate Professor, Secretary of the Council of
  Agricultural Sciences,
4. Member: Prof. Dr. Yandag Ganbold, Director of Mongolian Veterinary Research
  Institute
5. Member: Dr. Jamyan Dugersuren, Head of Laboratory of Physiology and Pathology of
  Young Animals

Registration

The registration form (as the registrationform.doc file) has been sent to you. You can also

1. Complete and sign the registration form and sent it by email or fax no later than July 15th,
   2008.
2. Once your application is accepted, you will receive a confirmation email. Please check if the
   recorded data are correct.
3. Please note that the deadline for full payment of the registration fee is June 15\textsuperscript{th} 2008 for Early Bird Registration and that July 15\textsuperscript{th} 2008 for regular registration.
4. Cancellations should be made before July 30\textsuperscript{th} 2008; after that date no refunds will be made.

The Early Bird Registration Fee is $US 250 and the Regular Registration Fee is $US 300. Symposium fees include admission to the symposium sessions, refreshments, two lunches, registration materials and proceedings.

### Social Events

The social events include a Welcoming dinner hosted by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on August 27\textsuperscript{th}, the Symposium Dinner on August 28\textsuperscript{th}, and the post-symposium tour to the countryside as well as a guided tour in the Ulaanbaatar city on August 28\textsuperscript{th}.

Individual plans and suggestions of participants for other pre- or post-symposium events are welcome; we will support you with logistics, transportation and, of course, an English-speaking tour guide will be available to you. You may consider that the 28\textsuperscript{th} August is a Thursday.

### Transportation

**Travelling to Ulaanbaatar**

You can come to Ulaanbaatar (spelled often as Ulan-Bator) by air or train (only recommendable for participants from Russia and China). The website [http://www.discovermongolia.mn/flights.php](http://www.discovermongolia.mn/flights.php) contains useful information on travelling to Mongolia, including a list of airlines.

**From the Airport to the Hotel**

The current taxi rate is about $0.30 per km. The distance from the airport to the hotel “Chinggis Khan” is about 25 km, so you should pay not more than $8.

If you wish us to pick you up at the airport, please let us know in advance.

### Location

**Mongolia**

Mongolia is located in the North-East Asia, being landlocked between Russia and China. It is said, Mongolia is located in the heart of Asia. Geographical conditions are not very favourable; the nearest port, the Tyanjin city at the Yellow See is 700 km from the eastern border. Although you could find plenty of online sources about Mongolia, you might find little time for doing so. Therefore, we recommend you a short, but informative article on [http://wikitravel.org/en/Mongolia](http://wikitravel.org/en/Mongolia). A more advanced one is available on [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mongolia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mongolia).
Ulaanbaatar
The symposium will be held in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. The city is located in the northern part of the country at 47° 55’ N, 106° 55’ E. Please visit http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ulan_Bator to get informed about the city.

“Chinggis Khan” hotel
This hotel is located in the center of the Ulaanbaatar city. It is marked with a red line on the below map.

Accommodation
Since the symposium will take place at the Chinggis Khan hotel, we recommend you to stay at this hotel. The prices are:
Single room with king size bed: $US 95
Semiluxe: $US 150

The above room rates include:
* Breakfast
* Internet 24 hours
* Sauna
* Fitness Center
* Baby crib (if requested)
* 10% VAT
* Mini bar: standard room - 2 bottles of water, 2 soft drinks, 1 chocolate bar
  semiluxe room- 2 bottles of water, 2 soft drinks, 2 beers, 1 chocolate bar

We have reserved five semiluxe rooms, so please let us know as soon as possible if you want to take one of them.

About the Chinggis Khan hotel you can inform yourself on its website: www.chinggis-hotel.com.

---

**Contact**

Organizing committee of the 2008 Asian Symposium on Lactic Acid Bacteria in Research and Industry:

Email: asialab2008@gmail.com
Phone: 00976-11-341476
Fax: 00976-11-342111

Please feel free to contact us if you have any question.

You can also contact Mr. Prof. Shirchin Demberel, chairman of the Org.Committee, at his mobile phone: 00976-99024898, or Mr. Dr. Baast Erdenebolor at 00976-99016533.