

In Memoriam István Szabolcs



On 11. August in 1997. the prominent figure of the Hungarian and International Soil Research Science, István Szabolcs died unware in tragical circumstances.

István Szabolcs was born in Túrkeve in 1924.

His field of research was soil classification, soil mapping, and particularly, the problems of genesis, characteristics, amelioration and utilization of salt affected soils. He thoroughly studied the effect of irrigation and drainage on soils and their properties.

The study of the soil as part of the natural environment was essential in his research activity, which was mainly concerned with rational land use and soil conservation with particular regard to saline and alkali conditions.

In 1964 dr. Szabolcs was appointed Chairman of the Subcommittee on Salt Affected Soils of the ISSS and he fulfilled this task until 1982. In 1974 at the 10th Congress, he was elected Deputy Secretary General of the ISSS. He was reelected many times. He was the President of the Hungarian Society of Soil Science between 1970-1990.

Dr. Szabolcs was the editor-in-chief of the journal *Agrochemistry and Soil Science* (Budapest), member of the Editor Boards of numerous international Journals and Editor-in-Chief of CIEC (International Centre of Fertilizers).

Dr. Szabolcs has published fifteen books and more than 600 papers. One of his most significant work is the "Salt-Affected Soils", were published by CRC Press. Inc., Boca Raton, Florida USA (1989).

Szabolcs István became an internationally recognized person by his good professional knowledge and intelligency. We, who worked with him, know that he helped the Youngs unselfishly, he received them to work with him and assisted them to forge on.

His quick reaction ability was well-known, he was quick of understanding in every question.

He was relentlessly consequent in the work.

He was a very sympathetic man in his personal life, this caused his tragedy.

Istvan Busaz, Hungary