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## HOT NEWS

ISSUE 1, 2020



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The Secretariat of WASWAC  
No. 20 Chegongzhuang Road West  
Beijing 100048 P. R. China  
[www.waswac.org](http://www.waswac.org)

Tel: +86-10-68786579  
Fax: +86-10-68411174  
Email: [waswac@vip.163.com](mailto:waswac@vip.163.com)  
Editor: Dr. Ying Zhao

## New Year Message of 2020 from the WASWAC President

Dear WASWAC Councilors, Advisors, Regional Representatives and all members,

A happy new year to all our members and supporters. 2020 promises to be an exciting year and I am looking forward to work with you all-as individuals, organizations and experts.

In the last few years, we have witnessed the growth and prosperity of WASWAC. Since 2010, WASWAC have successfully held four World Conferences and two International Youth Forums in different countries around the world. The conferences and forums brought scientists, technical staffs, students, and people from soil and water conservation related works all together to share their ideas, knowledge and technologies. I have seen more and more attendees passionately showing their research and communicating with each other, sparking new and innovative thoughts. The WASWAC awards including Norman Hudson Memorial Award, Distinguished Research Award, Distinguished Extensionist Award, Special Contribution Award, and the newly established Youth Outstanding Paper Award have all drawn great attention and increased positive influence in the community. At the same time, our official journal International Soil and Water Conservation Research (ISWCR) also provides a great platform to researchers all over the world to share their insights, innovation, and practice in soil and water conservation. ISWCR is indexed by SCIE last year, which is a milestone for both the journal and our association.

I am very proud to be in the privileged position to lead WASWAC in this important work and in continuing the excellent work of previous presidents. The degradation of soil and water resources is becoming severe challenges because of climate change, environment pollution, energy crises, and population growth. Efficient conservation and management are crucial for sustainable development for all countries and regions under this changing environment. As a world association focusing on soil and water conservation, WASWAC will certainly play a very important role to promote the wise use of management practices that will improve and safeguard the quality of land and water resources, so that they continue to meet the needs of agriculture, society and nature.

On behalf of my fellow board members and staff in secretariat, I wish all of you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year full of new energies and new dreams, new goals and new journeys in 2020!



Prof. Duihu Ning

President of WASWAC

## Collaboration meeting of WASWAC and CSSWC

On Jan. 9th 2020, staffs from CSSWC (Chinese Society of Soil and Water Conservation) secretariat visited WASWAC (World Association of Soil and Water Conservation) secretariat office and discussed some future collaboration opportunities. WASWAC president Prof. Duihu Ning and secretary general Prof. Xiaoying Liu attended the meeting. During the meeting, president Ning gave a warm welcome to staffs from CSSWC and introduced the history and progress of WASWAC in the past.

WASWAC and CSSWC have similar background and academic interest. WASWAC was established in USA in 1983, and was moved to International Research and Training Center on

have been conducted, a series of international training courses, symposia and workshops have been organized, and several awards in the field of soil and conservation have been set up and sponsored by WASWAC. CSSWC was established in China in 1985, almost at the



*2nd General Assembly of CSSWC in Xi'an, 2019*

same time with WASWAC. Unlike the international basis of WASWAC, CSSWC is founded by Chinese researchers from soil and water conservation related areas. Its aim is to unite the scientific researchers and technological workers of soil and water conservation, to implement technology and sustainable development, organize academic research and domestic and international academic exchanges, train scientific and technological talents, and promote the popularization and development of soil and water conservation science and technology.



*International Youth Forum of Soil and Water Conservation*

Erosion and Sedimentation, China since 2010. WASWAC has devoted itself to research and communication to solve scientific and technical problems related to soil and water conservation. Many cooperative research projects



WASWAC and CSSWC had a lot of meaningful cooperation in the past years. The World Conference of WASWAC, and International Youth Forum of Soil and Water Conservation was also supported by CSSWC as well. Vice versa, the 2nd General Assembly of CSSWC

held in Xi'an in Dec. 2019 was also supported by WASWAC. The cooperation between two associations build a bridge to connect the research of soil and water conservation in China and the international world.



## Celebration of Chinese New Year

### Introduction to Chinese New Year

The Chinese New Year, also called Spring Festival, is the most important and widely celebrated festival of all in China. It is celebrated from the 1st day of the 1st lunar month to the 15th day of the 1st lunar month. The final (15th) day is called Lantern Festival, and the night before the 1st day is called Chinese New Year's Eve (Chuxi in Chinese spelling). This is



a time for family reunions, visiting relatives and friends and exchanging greetings for the

coming New Year. It is also a time to ring out the old and ring in the new. The Chinese New Year can also be called "Guonian" which means the passing of the old year to the new one. This festival emphasizes the importance of family ties. The dinner gathering of Chinese New Year's Eve is the most important family occasion of the year.

### The Origin of Chinese New Year

There are several versions for the origin of Chinese New Year. The most widely heard one is that there was a mythical beast called "Nian" which means "year" in Chinese. Nian always came on the first day of New Year to prey on livestock, crops, and even people. In order to protect themselves, people started putting food in front of their doors at the be-

ginning of every New Year, as they believed that after Nian ate the food prepared for him, he wouldn't eat any of their crops and people.



Coincidentally, some people once saw that Nian was scared away by the red clothes worn by a child so they concluded that Nian was afraid of the color red. Therefore, in preparation for the New Year, people began to buy new red clothes for themselves. Also, they hung red lanterns and red spring couplets on doors and windows. They also lit firecrackers to scare Nian away. From then on, Nian never came back again.

### Symbolic Cuisines of Chinese New Year

On Chinese New Year's Eve, members of the family, big or small, near or far away, gather



for a "reunion dinner". The most common dishes for this dinner are chicken and fish. There are many symbolic foods prepared for the New Year. For example, the fish, "Yu" in Chinese pinyin, signifies that there should always be surpluses. Commonly in northern China, "Jiaozi" (dumplings) are made, symbolizing the luck that is wrapped inside. In eastern China, "Nian gao" (Chinese New Year Pudding) is prepared, symbolizing a more prosperous year. People also buy melon seeds, candy, and other seeds during the festival.

### Year of the Rat

The Rat is the first of all zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said



the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived to his party. The Rat tricked the Ox into giving him a ride. Then, just as they arrived at the finish line, Rat jumped down and landed ahead of Ox, becoming first. Optimistic and energetic, people born in the Rat year are likable by all.

## Updated CiteScore of ISWCR in Jan 2020

CiteScore is a metric for measuring journal impact in Scopus. The calculation of CiteScore for the current year is based on the number of citations received by a journal in that year for the documents published in the journal in the past three years, divided by the documents indexed in Scopus published in those three years. Below is the updated information on Scopus website:

### *International Soil and Water Conservation Research*

Open Access

Scopus coverage years: from 2013 to present

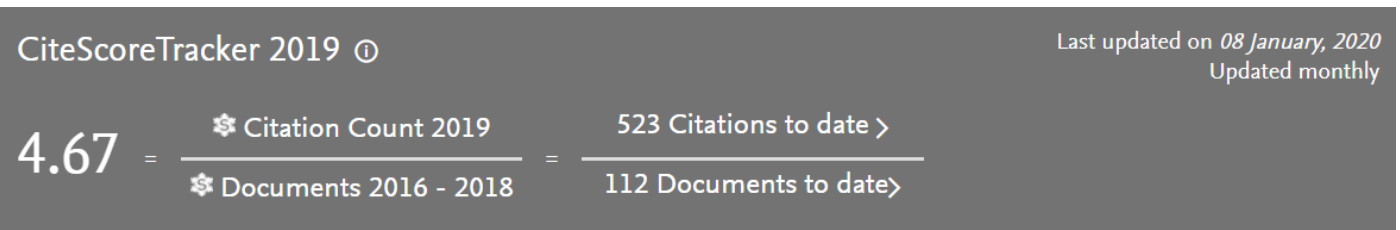
Publisher: International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation & China Water and Power Press

ISSN: 2095-6339

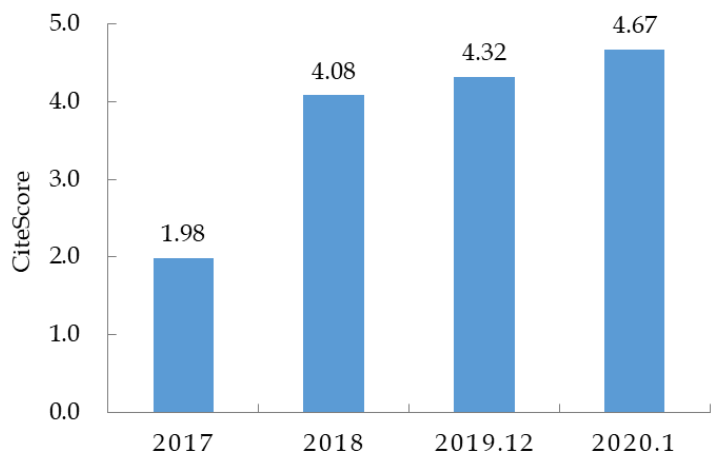
Subject area: Environmental Science: Water Science and Technology

Environmental Science: Nature and Landscape Conservation

Agricultural and Biological Sciences: Agronomy and Crop Science



The aims of ISWCR is to track the development trend, advanced theory, innovative technology and practice results in soil and water research, build the academic exchange platform, and promote the development and prosperity of soil and water conservation discipline. It publishes both research and review papers in soil and water conservation related areas.



## Subscription of ISWCR 2020 Begins

International Soil and Water Conservation Research (ISWCR), the official journal of WASWAC, is a quarterly academic journal in English and publishes in Science Direct of Elsevier with open access globally. The subscription of ISWCR 2020 begins from this month.

The aims of ISWCR is to track the development trend, advanced theory, innovative technology and practice results in soil and water research, build the academic exchange platform, and promote the development and prosperity of soil and water conservation discipline. It publishes both research and review

papers in soil erosion, soil and water conservation, conservation agriculture, soil evaluation and management, soil degradation, watershed management and sustainable development. ISWCR is currently indexed by several well-known databases: SCIE, SCOPUS, CSCD(C), DOAJ. The journal will acquire its first impact factor in the second year in 2020. Currently, the cite score is 4.08 based on SCOPUS analysis. According to the simulation of impact factor (IF) based on data from Web of Science, the mocked IF is 2.96 in 2018, which is equivalent to the Q2 journals in SCI/SCIE journal list in the field of environmental science.

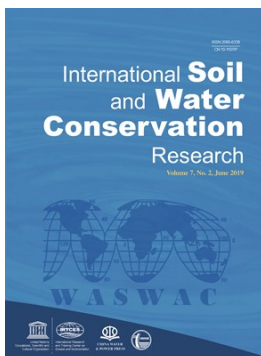
There are several benefits when you subscribe to ISWCR 2020:

- ⇒ Get a free membership of WASWAC in 2020
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The Secretariat of WASWAC

No. 20 Chegongzhuang Road West, Beijing 100048, P. R. China

Tel: +86-10-68786579

Fax: +86-10-68411174

Email: [waswac@vip.163.com](mailto:waswac@vip.163.com)

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WASWAC Website: [www.waswac.org](http://www.waswac.org)

## WASWAC

The World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC), as a worldwide academic society, was established in USA in August 1983. The WASWAC secretariat, initially located at the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS), Iowa, USA, was moved on 1 April 2003 to the International Center for Research and Training on Seabuckthorn (ICRTS), Beijing, China, and from October 2010 to the International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES), also in Beijing.

Since its founding, WASWAC has devoted itself to research and communication to solve scientific and technical problems related to soil and water conservation. Many cooperative research projects have been conducted, a series of international training courses, symposia and workshops have been organized, and several awards in the field of soil and conservation have been set up and sponsored by WASWAC.