



FOGQUEST NEWS

February 2006 / Issue 18

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF FOGQUEST



Editor

Dr. Robert Schemenauer

Contributions of short articles, news items and photographs for upcoming issues of the Newsletter are welcome.

They should be sent to:

info@fogquest.org

or to the address at the end of this Newsletter.

The Newsletter's primary purpose is to be a means of exchanging information with our members. We hope that it will also promote better communications between those working on water projects using fog, rainfall and dew collection, and those studying the many scientific aspects related to these atmospheric water sources. The Newsletter is sent three times a year to members of FogQuest: sustainable water solutions. The current issue is available on the web site www.FogQuest.org. Information on membership can also be obtained on the web site.

The mailing of this issue of the Newsletter has been considerably delayed, as regular readers will have noticed. We closed the office in Toronto in late 2005 and put the contents in storage while operating in a temporary fashion. January and February of 2006 were very disrupted as I prepared to move 4600 km west to Kamloops, British Columbia. This took place at the end of February. March was chaotic as I began the process of merging three Toronto offices, including FogQuest's, into one in Kamloops, plus getting my new home established. In April and early May I was faced with some serious family health issues to deal with and am only now beginning to feel that life in the West of Canada is settling into a condition of normalcy and, hopefully, productivity. Discussions with the Board of Directors resulted in an agreement to try and run the FogQuest out of space in my home, rather than rental space as we have been doing the last five years. This is the new address you will see on the website and this Newsletter. It is a means to save considerable funds and put them directly into projects. It is, of course, a compromise in other ways. We will reassess the decision in a year's time. For now things are up and running. We also finally have our new credit card processing account in operation and can process VISA and MasterCard payments as before. For all of you who have not already paid your 2006 membership fees, this is the time to do so. If you are in doubt if you have paid, just send a query to info@fogquest.org.

For those regular visitors to the FogQuest website, you will have noticed in the last few months a CanadaHelps icon. This is a link to a Canadian not-for-profit organization that processes on-line donations in a secure manner and issues immediate receipts for income tax purposes (in Canada). It



One of the data loggers installed by Rick Taylor in Guatemala to measure the amount of water produced by the fog collectors.

Melissa Rosato

works very well and costs us nothing on a monthly basis. Our website manager, Bob Crawford, has done a good job in getting this up and running. CanadaHelps takes a small percentage of each donation as a fee to cover their operating costs. We hope to build traffic to our site and increase donations through this easy to use donation process.

FogQuest depends totally on volunteers to carry out our field project work and our office and outreach tasks. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer to help, please let us know. We are especially in need of people to come

into our office in Kamloops to keep our financial books up to date and work on our databases and other related tasks. In the last year we have been very fortunate to have two excellent interns with us, supported by IDRC in Ottawa. Melissa Rosato (in Ontario, Canada) will continue to assist us as our Outreach and Special Projects Coordinator. Virginia Carter (in Santiago, Chile) will work with us as our Field Projects coordinator, where she will work with our Field Operations Manager, Pablo Osses. Virginia and Melissa have both been very active in our projects in Guatemala and Virginia is also heavily involved with the projects in Chile.



Sheep belonging to the people of La Ventosa, Guatemala, pass under one of the large fog collectors.

Melissa Rosato



The view from the FogQuest office in Kamloops, BC, Canada.



Fog on Paul Peak from the FogQuest office in Kamloops.



Melissa Rosato and Daniel Jiatz reviewing the data logger results in La Ventosa, Guatemala.

SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS

There has been some discussion about increasing the amount of information on the fog-related science projects that our members are working on around the world. We are very much interested in hearing about your work and presenting short summaries in the Newsletter. Please submit a short text of about 200 words, and a few photos, and we would be glad to include it together with your contact information. Your work can only be presented if you make the submission!

FOGQUEST HAS MOVED

After four years in our Toronto Office we are now in Kamloops, a city of 80,000 people in central British Columbia, and the main FogQuest operations will be run from an office here. We retain an energetic core of volunteers in both Southern Ontario and in Santiago, Chile, as well as our members who are active in more than 20 countries. Our new address and other contact information are on the website and in this Newsletter.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the matching grant of \$2000 received from Rotary District 7090 in the Niagara area of Canada and the Western New York area in the USA. The funding and matching funds are a result of work by a group in the Grimsby Rotary Club: Thomas Brock, Al Dyson, and Richard Ring. We would also like to sincerely thank the Trinity United Church in Beamsville, Ontario, for their generous donation of \$3000 for use in the FogQuest-Rotary water project in Guatemala.



Ladies of La Ventosa, Guatemala.



WHAT IS FogQuest?

FogQuest is an innovative, international, non-governmental, non-profit organization, which implements and promotes the environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable use of fog, rain and dew as sustainable water resources for people in arid regions of developing countries.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Please consider taking out a membership in FogQuest. A solid network of members will be our means of spreading information on fog collection and generating support that is vital to our operations. The annual membership fee of \$35 Canadian, or \$35 US for those outside of Canada, can be paid by check or by credit card. Corporate membership is \$200 CAD. We accept VISA or MasterCard. Students receive a \$5 discount on their membership fee. Donations from both individuals and institutions are encouraged and can be directed for general support or to our projects in Guatemala, Chile, Eritrea and Nepal.

FOG COLLECTION PROJECT

Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain

Submitted by David Riebold

Lanzarote has a lot to offer those with an interest in unusual sources of water. The pre-scientific technology of stone mulching reduces evaporation and weed growth to such an extent that a wide spacing of individual plants becomes practical. This not only suits local climatic conditions (rainfall similar to the nearby Sahara) but may also permit side foliage to benefit from frequent heavy dewfall. More recently, wind-generated electricity has provided an economical source of power for desalination plants. Despite this background, however, it took 15 years before my proposals for the use of fog catching nets was implemented.

The depth of topsoil remaining on the highest peaks of Haria district (maximum altitude 654 metres) shows deforestation to be a fairly recent event. Efforts at reforestation by the Island Council have been of limited success – most treeplings succumbed to the summer heat. However even during the hottest months frequent rolling cloud could be observed passing less than a metre above these wilting plants. Hearing of FogQuest's early fog collection projects, it became clear that this would be an ideal method of 'kick-starting' growth until the trees were themselves sufficiently large to intercept fog water.

A proposal presented with the help of FogQuest found a sympathetic ear with Haria's newly elected mayor who instigated a shoestring project, using volunteers to install eight standard fog collectors. Four SFCs are at La Quemada, two are at Aganada and two at Peñas del Chache. All of the sites have produced water on a consistent basis, with the better sites averaging about 2 L m⁻² day⁻¹ over the first five months. These quantities are sufficient for the intended use. It has been awarded as a 'best practice' project by the Spanish government's Department of the Environment, which bodes well for funding for the second phase, which includes larger nets to be erected at the most successful test sites.

Contact: harialanzarote@hotmail.com

FOG EVALUATION PROJECT

Saudi Arabia

A new evaluation of the potential of fog collection to provide additional water has begun in the mountains of southwestern Saudi Arabia. Dr. Al-hassan, King Khalid University, reports that initial measurements show fog collection rates of about 4 L m⁻² day⁻¹. The material used in the fog collector and the style of the protective fence will shortly be changed to conform more closely to protocols in other projects.

Contact: Ghassan Al-hassan, galhassan@kku.edu.sa



The "sea of clouds" entering Gallo to create a layer of fog in Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain.



Fog at the Finca Mamelolo site, Lanzarote, Spain.



The collector to measure fog fluxes at Aganada, Lanzarote, Spain.



The collector to measure fog fluxes at La Quemada, Lanzarote, Spain.



Initial fog collector, with protective fence, at 3200 m elevation in the southwest of Saudi Arabia.



Virginia Carter

Use your attendance at the 2007 Conference as an opportunity to visit the spectacular Coastal Desert of Chile.

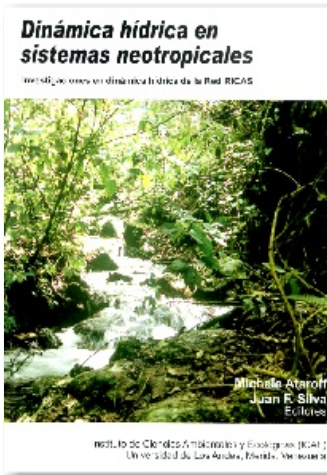


4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FOG, FOG COLLECTION AND DEW LA SERENA, CHILE JULY 2007

The next conference has been awarded to Chile. It will be held in La Serena, which is about 500 km north of the capital city of Santiago. La Serena is a old colonial city of about 250,000 people with a modern beach resort area. Despite having only about 100 mm of annual precipitation, grapes for wine as well as fruit are grown in the nearby Elqui Valley. During the conference, tours will be offered to the fog collection site at Falda Verde and to the Elqui Valley. The conference Chair, Pilar Cereceda, and the Conference Program Director, Pablo Osses, are both active FogQuest members. For more information contact Profesora Cereceda at dcereced@puc.cl

2004 Conf.: For more information, please contact Professor Rautenbach at hannes.rautenbach@up.ac.za. You can reach the conference website through the FogQuest site.

2001 Conf.: You can still purchase copies of the Proceedings Volume of the 2001 Fog Conference through FogQuest. It is an important addition to a personal or institutional library.



The new book by Michele Ataroff and Juan Silva.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE			
	COUNTRY	SPECIALTY	INSTITUTION
AFRICA Joh Henschel Hannes Rautenbach	Namibia South Africa	desert ecologist meteorology	Gobabeb Training & Research Centre University of Pretoria
ASIA/AUSTRALIA Manabu Igawa Peter Newham	Japan Australia	chemistry forecasting	Kanagawa University Bureau of Meteorology
EUROPE Joerg Bendix Daniel Beysens Werner Eugster Otto Klemm Viky Marzol Detlev Möller	Germany France Switzerland Germany Spain, Canary Islands Germany	remote sensing dew/OPUR microphysics/deposition chemistry geography/fog collection chemistry & fog dissipation	University of Marburg CEA - Grenoble Swiss Inst. of Technology University of Muenster University of La Laguna Brandenburg Tech. Univ. Cottbus
MIDDLE EAST Simon Berkowicz	Israel	dew/dew instrumentation	Hebrew Univ. of Jerusalem
NORTH AMERICA Jeff Collett Dick Jagels Bob Schemenauer	USA USA Canada	microphysics/instrumentation forestry/fog deposition fog collection/microphysics	Colorado State University University of Maine FogQuest & Environment Canada
SOUTH AMERICA Michele Ataroff José Manuel Molina	Venezuela Columbia	cloud forests fog collection	University of the Andes National University of Columbia

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NEWS

Michele Ataroff (Venezuela) together with Juan F. Silva have edited a booklet, published in 2005, entitled "Dinámica hídrica en sistemas neotropicales." It includes eight papers and discusses amongst many other issues, the importance of fog as a water input to the forests. **Pablo Osses (Santiago, Chile)** and his wife Sandra have a new baby daughter, Florencia Paz Osses Viviani. This is Florencia's first appearance in the international media! **Roberto Semenzato**, who directed the EU fog collection project in Peru in the 1990s, and since has been the Scientific Attache with the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires, will be moving with his wife, Sadia, to Furry Creek, near Vancouver, **Canada**. The **Scientific Committee** for the 2007 Fourth International Conference on Fog, Fog Collection and



Florencia Paz Osses Viviani, the new daughter of Pablo and Sandra.

Dew is made up of: Robert Schemenauer (Chair, **Canada**), Otto Klemm (Vice-chair, **Germany**) and 14 members with a wide spread of specialties and residences. Please contact them with ideas for sessions, papers, or other conference related issues.

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