

EDITORIAL FOREWORD

Minimizing food waste to Prevent Global Hunger

It becomes a fact that one in nine people around the world does not have enough to eat, and the number is rising. After falling steadily between 2005 and 2014, the number of undernourished people increased in 2015, rising for the fourth consecutive year in 2018. According to the United Nations, a thoughtful change of the global food and agriculture system is needed to feed the 821 million people who are suffering from hunger today, and the additional 2 billion people expected to be undernourished by 2050. It is a timely issue to consider how we cultivate, distribute and consume our food. If done right, agriculture, forestry and fisheries can provide nutritious food for the total population in the world and generate sufficient incomes, whilst supporting people-centered rural development and protecting the environment.

However, food produce today in the world is more than enough to feed current world population and further sufficient to provide enough food for the projected global population of 9.7 billion in 2050. There will be no need therefore, to bother for further increase of food production, if we give sustainable solutions to this very high food wastage that occurs from food production to food consumption all along the supply chain. The total food wastage in current scenario is nearly 1/3 of the total food production. Today, around 1.3 billion tons of produced food per annum are never consumed. The solution to feeding a growing population is not just to produce more and more food by spending billions of dollars and harming the environment, but also to save, preserve, or recycle the food already produced by minimizing food waste. Cutting current food wastage in half, for example, would yield enough food to feed one billion people; half of the additional population expected by 2050. The Journal of Agricultural Sciences – Sri Lanka (JASSL) expects to give priorities to publish scientific research papers that will address this burning issue. Hence, I would like to invite researchers around the world to send more papers related to ways of minimizing the food waste.

Also, with pleasure I would like to announce that Journal of Agricultural Sciences (ISSN 1391-9318, e ISSN 2386-1363 is now indexed in Web of Science as E SCI journal. Web of Science says “*Web of Science Core Collection* includes only journals that demonstrate high levels of editorial rigor and best practice”. This is the best recognition we achieved for the highest quality of the JASSL.

Currently the JASSL has been indexed in Web of Science, SCOPUS, EBOCUS, DOAJ, COPE, AGORA, Cabi abstracts and many other indexing bodies. It shows the wider acceptance of JASSL by international citations and journal databases. This is an indicator for our progress in journal quality during past years. There were many people behind this success. This honour must go to Prof. Chandrika Dissanayake - Coordinating Editor of JASSL, Mr. Prasad C. Iddamalgoda, Ms Suiox Cummings of INASP, Ms. AmilaTennakoon of SLJOL, Mr. Harsha Udayakantha Peiris - Copy Editor, all the authors, reviewers and all members of the Editorial Committee.

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