



RULES AND REGULATIONS & FURTHER INFORMATION

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Louis MALASSIS (1918-2007)



Louis Malassis was a highly esteemed French educator, agronomist and agro-economist. He was an ardent supporter of farmers' cause and founder of Agropolis.

Born to a modest farming family in Brittany in 1918, Malassis remained faithful to agriculture throughout his lifetime. He studied at the National School of Agriculture in Rennes and started his career as an engineer and later as Professor of Rural Economy in 1945. He obtained a doctorate in Economics at the University of Rennes. He taught at the Graduate School of Agronomy in both Rennes and Montpellier and was among the principal advisers of INRA, the French institute for agricultural research. He became the Director-General for Research and Education at the French Ministry of Agriculture in 1978 and later at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute. He was adviser to several agriculture ministers.

In 1986, he founded Agropolis, an international campus based in Montpellier which groups together various research organizations and institutes for higher learning in agriculture in the Languedoc Roussillon region. Today, Agropolis is home to one of the world's largest concentration of scientific skills and expertise in agriculture, food and environment.

Malassis was also co-founder of various initiatives that supports and promotes farmers' rights. He authored "*L'épopée inachevée des paysans du monde*" (The unfinished quest of the farmers of the world), among others. In 2005, he founded "*Association Paroles de paysans du monde*" a group which aims to promote and disseminate writings and publications that serve as testimony to farming.

He passed away in December 2007.

Previous Laureates



2012 DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST AWARDEE

Dr. Pamela Ronald has worked on improving rice resistance to diseases and tolerance to flooding, which are serious problems of rice crops in Asia and Africa. Her groundbreaking discoveries in plant science have influenced the research of scientists around the world and have benefitted farmers in the developing world. She has developed a wide range of partnerships which have contributed substantially to the success of her research.

She obtained her PhD at the University of California-Berkeley. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and holds a Fulbright-Tocqueville Distinguished Chair Award. A Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and the Genome Center at UC-Davis, she co-authored the book *Tomorrow's Table: Organic Farming, Genetics and the Future of Food*, selected by The New Earth Archive as one of the 25 most powerful and influential books, with her husband, Raoul Adamchak, an organic farmer.



2010 YOUNG PROMISING SCIENTIST AWARDEE

Dr. Matty Demont is an agricultural economist. For him, the biggest challenge for African stakeholders is to create favorable market conditions for private sector investment in the domestic rice sector through an optimal mix of investment between supply-shifting and demand-lifting R&D as well as optimal public-private linkages in Africa's multiple national and regional rice sector development efforts.

He worked with private enterprises and more than 1,600 women consumers throughout Africa employing participatory approaches, providing him unique insights into the bottlenecks in upgrading rice value chains in the region that could not have been obtained through simple surveys or through working with farmers alone.

He obtained his PhD in Bioscience Engineering in 2006 from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. He moved to Saint-Louis, Senegal and worked as an Associate Agricultural Economist, and then as Principal Value Chain Economist of the Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice). He now works with the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines.



2010 DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST AWARDEE

Dr. Ken Sayre's career has been driven by his determination to see science applied for the benefit of the poor and the hungry. His most extensive work in agronomy deals with the development and extension of bed-planting technologies for both irrigated and rain-fed crop systems.

He first implemented permanent bed-planting methods for wheat in Mexico, and further demonstrated their high efficiency: 20 to 40% decrease of irrigation water use, 10% decrease of nitrogen fertilizer use, minimizing erosion and increasing soil fertility. He traveled extensively all over the world to train both farmers and agronomists and help them implement these new technologies which are now being widely used in many Latin American and Central Asian countries as well as in India and China.

He is also deeply involved in conservation agriculture, conducting field experiments in Mexico and delivering many international courses. He was the Regional Agronomist for Asia of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Mexico.



2010 YOUNG PROMISING SCIENTIST AWARDEE

Dr. Silvia Restrepo's work as a plant pathologist is focused on most important diseases that attack cassava and potato, studying the genetic and phenotypic diversity of the pathogens and their molecular interactions with their hosts.

She is constantly in search for alternative methods of disease control such as the use of natural compounds produced by enemies of pathogens. At the same time, she established close contact with Colombian farmers, thus allowing her to better understand issues they face, the limitations and strengths of Colombian agriculture that could be addressed and harnessed to improve production.

Silvia is also a passionate teacher; giving courses on basic sciences (cellular biology, plant pathology, fungi biology, genomics and bioinformatics) both at undergraduate and graduate levels. She carries weekly discussions with her students on assigned research articles. She is currently an associate professor at the University of Los Andes in Bogota.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

2015 Edition

Preamble

The Agropolis Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food, hereafter referred to as the "Prize", was created in 2009 by Agropolis Fondation as a tribute to Prof. Louis Malassis, a French agronomist and agro-economist, an ardent supporter of farmers' cause, and founder of Agropolis. The Prize was awarded for the first time in March 2010 during the 1st Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD). In 2012, the Prize was given during GCARD2 in Punta del Este, Uruguay. The 3rd edition of the Prize is being organized in 2015, with the Award Ceremony taking place during the 3rd Global Science Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture on 16-18 March 2015 in Montpellier, France.

Article 1 – Objective of the Prize

The Prize, given once every two years, aims to recognize individuals, or a group of individuals, for their exemplary and promising contribution in promoting innovation through research, development and/or capacity building in the North, South or in the Mediterranean in order to improve food and agricultural systems sustainability as well as to address food security and poverty reduction.

The Prize recognizes individuals whose scientific works are not only important contribution to the production of knowledge but are also actively promoting the use of knowledge in addressing current development challenges, and are involved in fomenting collective action across stakeholders.

Article 2 – Modalities in awarding the Prize

1. The Prize has three categories which comes with €20,000:
 - a. Louis Malassis Distinguished Scientist Prize;
 - b. Louis Malassis Young Promising Scientist Prize; and
 - c. Louis Malassis Prize for Outstanding Career in Agricultural Development, as the latest addition to the Prize.
2. In the event that the Prize is conferred to a group, the cash prize should be equally divided among the winners.
3. The eligibility of nominees is reviewed by Agropolis Fondation based on the conditions stipulated in Article 4.
4. The nominees who are eligible for the Prize are evaluated by an international jury constituted by the Chair of Agropolis Fondation.
5. The Prize is awarded to the winners in a ceremony organized by Agropolis Fondation.

Article 3 – Launch of the Prize

The Call for Nominations of the Prize is published and disseminated through the website and mailing list of Agropolis Fondation (www.agropolis-fondation.fr), among others.

Article 4 – Eligibility

1. To be eligible for the Prize, candidates should be from any of the following categories, and working in any of the fields stated in Article 1:
 - a. Academic or research organization, public or private
 - b. Civil society organization
 - c. Private sector group (e.g., small/medium enterprises)
2. A group nomination should consist of no more than three persons. Each nominee (and each member of a group, in the case of a group nomination) should meet the following criteria:
 - a. For the "Distinguished Scientist" Category
 - Holds a PhD degree
 - At least 15 years of professional experience
 - Proven significant contribution in one or various fields covered by the Prize, as stated in Article 1

- b. For the “Young Promising Scientist” Category
 - Holds a PhD degree
 - At least 5 years of professional experience
 - Demonstrated potential in one or various fields covered by the Prize, as stated in Article 1
 - Should be no more than 40 years old by 01 January 2015
 - c. For the “Outstanding Career in Agricultural Development” Category
 - At least 20 years of professional experience
 - Given to a person still in activity whose professional career is devoted to agricultural development, be it in the field of research, innovation, capacity building, development or policy in any of the fields covered by the Prize, as stated in Article 1.
3. Only complete Application Packages submitted no later than the set deadline will be considered for the Prize. (See Article 5)

Article 5 – Nomination

1. A person can be a candidate in only one category. Previous nominees can still apply for the new edition of the Prize.
2. The Application Form should be duly completed in English. It should be signed and sent to Agropolis Fondation together with all the required annexes. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.
3. Completed Application Form should be submitted electronically at malassis-prize2015@agropolis.fr no later than **04 December 2014 (12:00, French time)**. Each candidate will receive an email confirming receipt of the Application Form.
4. Applicants may be requested to provide additional documentation related to their candidature at any point of the process.
5. Applicants are bound by the rules and procedures of the Prize.

Article 6 – Selection criteria

1. The selection by the jury is based on the relevance of the dossier with respect to the category of the Prize the application belongs to.
2. Candidates are evaluated and selected based on the following criteria:
 - a. Scientific quality of the contribution of the Candidate
 - b. (Potential) Impacts of the contribution to sustainable development
 - c. Quality of partnerships developed and established, notably with the civil society, e.g. non-government organizations, farmers and producers organizations, etc.

Article 7 – Jury

1. The Chairman of the Board of Agropolis Fondation appoints jury members. The independent jury is composed of internationally recognized individuals acclaimed for their contribution to agriculture and food as well as knowledge of international issues confronting the sector.
2. The jury deliberates and selects the winner of each category. It has no obligation to justify or defend its choice. Its decision is final and irrevocable.
3. The winners of the Prize are announced in a ceremony organized by Agropolis Fondation.

Article 8 – Confidentiality

1. Members of the jury and all persons with access to the submitted Application Forms commit themselves in keeping any information provided confidential.
2. Members of the jury agree not to disclose the results of their deliberation prior to the announcement of the winners.

2015 Edition TIMEFRAME

INDICATIVE DATES (Venue)	ACTIVITIES
mid-September 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of the 2015 Agropolis Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food
04 December 2014, 12:00 French time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for submission of Nomination Forms • Submission in English; Submission through email
December 2014-January 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility check and distribution of dossiers to Jury Members • Individual evaluation by Jury Members
Week of 9 February 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of the International Jury in Montpellier • Background/Reference check of winners <i>Winners will be held confidential at this stage and will be contacted by the Foundation</i>
February-March 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel arrangements (Awardees)
16/17/18 March 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award Ceremony (Exact date and time to be determined)

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