

The Multinational Arabidopsis Steering Committee (MASC)

announces

The 18th International Conference on
Arabidopsis Research

Third Announcement

Beijing, China
June 20-23, 2007

[**www.Arabidopsis2007.com**](http://www.Arabidopsis2007.com)

Local Organizers

National Institute of Biological Sciences

Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology and The

Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Peking University

China Agricultural University

An Invitation to the International Arabidopsis and Plant Biology Communities

The International community of Arabidopsis researchers continues to grow. From an initial group of about 25 scientists that participated in the first International Arabidopsis Symposium in Germany in 1965, there are currently more than 15,000 Arabidopsis researchers in nearly 6,000 laboratories worldwide. While the second and third conferences occurred in roughly 10 year intervals, interest in Arabidopsis research rapidly increased in the 1980's. Beginning in 1995 this led to annual meetings, now called the International Conference on Arabidopsis Research (ICAR); since that year, the Arabidopsis meeting convenes approximately two out of every three years in the United States, with each third meeting held outside the U.S.

The Arabidopsis community is represented by the Multinational Arabidopsis Steering Committee (MASC), a committee made up of representatives of countries and programs around the world involved in Arabidopsis research. When held in the U.S., the International Conference of Arabidopsis Research is traditionally organized by the North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee (NAASC). When the meetings are held in locations outside the U.S., they are organized by a Local Organizing Committee, and as part of the International Advisory Committee, MASC provides assistance to the Local Advisory Committee. Recent past international locations include Norwich, U.K., Melbourne, Australia, Seville, Spain, and Berlin, Germany. The 18th International Conference (2007) will be held in Beijing, China, marking the first time the annual meeting will be held in an Asian country. Five local institutions will jointly organize the conference: the National Institute of Biological Sciences, The Institute of Botany and Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Peking University, and China Agricultural University. For more information, please visit our website at www.arabidopsis2007.com.

In addition to presentations of significant and innovative Arabidopsis-based research, the conference will include discussions of other relevant plant systems throughout most of the sessions. This complementary approach, initially allocated one special session during the 2004 Berlin ICAR, will emphasize the importance and usefulness of Arabidopsis as the reference plant and its impact on other systems.

The meeting will be held at the Jiuhua Spa and Resort, a comprehensive deluxe resort located on the grounds of the ancient Qing and Ming dynasties on the outskirts of the lively international city of Beijing. The Resort is arranged around numerous natural hot springs and provides a variety of on-site recreation, entertainment and fitness-related activities, as well as dozens of restaurants serving a diverse assortment of Chinese regional cuisines. Family members are welcome and may join conference attendees for no additional accommodation charge when sharing a reserved room (meals are additional).

The MASC would like to invite the international Arabidopsis and plant biology communities to join us at the 18th ICAR in Beijing, June 20-23, 2007.

Xing Wang Deng
On behalf of MASC

The Multinational Arabidopsis Steering Committee (MASC)

MASC Country Representatives	Home Institution	Representing
Ian Small Chair	University of Western Australia	Australia
Xing Wang Deng Co-chair	Yale University	United States/NAASC
Joanna Friesner MASC Coordinator	The Carnegie Institution	MASC/NAASC
Thomas Altmann	University of Potsdam	Germany
Ruth Bastow	University of Bristol	United Kingdom/ GARNet
Philip Benfey	Duke University	United States/NAASC
David Bouchez	INRA Centre de Versailles	France
Jorge Casal	IFEVA University of Buenos Aires	Argentina
Bill Crosby	University of Windsor	Canada
Klaus Harter	University of Tübingen	Germany
Pierre Hilson	Ghent University	Belgium
Heribert Hirt	University of Vienna	Austria
Jaakko Kangasjarvi	University of Turku, Finland	Nordic Arabidopsis Network
Sean May	University of Nottingham	United Kingdom/NASC
Peter McCourt	University of Toronto	Canada
Javier Paz-Ares	Centro Nacional de Biotecnología, Madrid	Spain
Barry Pogson	Australian National University, Canberra	Australia and New Zealand
Ben Scheres	University of Utrecht	The Netherlands
Randy Scholl	Ohio State University	United States/ABRC
Kazuo Shinozaki	RIKEN Plant Science Center	Japan
Willem Stiekema	Wageningen University	The Netherlands
Paola Vittorioso	University of Rome	Italy
Weicai Yang	Chinese Academy of Sciences	China

The North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee (NAASC)

Current NAASC member	Home Institution	Representing
Judith Bender	Johns Hopkins University	United States
Philip Benfey	Duke University	United States
Caren Chang	University of Maryland	United States
Xuemei Chen	University of California, Riverside	United States
Xing-Wang Deng	Yale University	United States
Joe Kieber	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	United States
Rob McClung	Dartmouth College	United States
Julian Schroeder	University of California, San Diego	United States


Regional Advisory Committee

Committee Member	Home Institution	Representing
Zhihong Xu <i>Chair</i>	Peking University	China
Sudip Chattopadhyay	National Centre for Plant Genome Research	India
Xiaoya Chen	Institute of Plant Physiology & Ecology	China
Zhangliang Chen	China Agricultural University	China
Jiayang Li	Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology	China
Hong Gil Nam	Pohang University of Science and Technology	South Korea
Kiyotaka Okada	Kyoto University	Japan
Kazuo Shinozaki	RIKEN Plant Science Center	Japan
Qifa Zhang	Huazhong Agricultural University	China

Local Organizing Committee

Committee Member	Home Institution	Representing
Kang Chong	The Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Beijing
Xing Wang Deng	National Institute of Biological Sciences	Beijing
Hongya Gu	Peking University	Beijing
Hai Huang	Institute of Plant Physiology & Ecology, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences Chinese Academy of Sciences	Shanghai
Chunming Liu	The Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Beijing
Chentao Lin	The Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	Beijing
Ligeng Ma	National Institute of Biological Sciences	Beijing
Shiping Wang	Huazhong Agricultural University	Wuhan
Ping Wu	Zhejiang University	Hangzhou
Weihua Wu	China Agricultural University	Beijing
Daoxin Xie	Tsinghua University	Beijing
Hongwei Xue	Institute of Plant Physiology & Ecology, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences Chinese Academy of Sciences	Shanghai
Yongbiao Xue	Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Beijing
Shuhua Yang	China Agricultural University	Beijing
Weicai Yang	Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Beijing
Jianmin Zhou	National Institute of Biological Sciences	Beijing
Yuxian Zhu	Peking University	Beijing
Jianru Zuo	Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Beijing

Preliminary Program Schedule

	Wednesday June 20	Thursday June 21	Friday June 22	Saturday June 23
08:00	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
08:30-10:00		plenary lectures (P1)	plenary lectures (P3)	plenary lectures (P5)
10:00-10:30		break	break	break
10:30-12:00		plenary lectures (P2)	plenary lectures (P4)	plenary lectures (P6)
12:00-13:00		lunch	lunch	lunch
13:30-15:00		symposia (S1,S3)	symposia (S5,S7)	symposia (S9,S11)
15:00-15:30		break	break	break
15:30-17:00		symposia (S2,S4)	symposia (S6,S8)	symposia (S10,S12)
18:00-19:30	Reception	Dinner posters open	Conference Dinner &	Dinner Posters open
19:30-21:30	posters open, self-organized workshops	posters open, self-organized workshops	Entertainment	posters open, self-organized workshops

Preliminary Scientific Program

Session Topics and Confirmed Speakers:

Plenary Sessions

- P1-Developmental Mechanisms
- P2- Genomics and Genetics
- P3- Plant Responses to the Environment
- P4- Epigenetics and Plant Defense
- P5- Signal Transduction/Cell Biology
- P6- Metabolism/Bioenergy

Concurrent Sessions

- S1- Developmental Mechanisms 1
- S2- Developmental Mechanisms 2
- S3- Genomics and Genetics 1
- S4- Genomics and Genetics 2
- S5- Responses to the Environment 1
- S6- Responses to the Environment 2
- S7- Responses to Microbials 1
- S8- Responses to Microbials 2
- S9- Signal Transduction
- S10- Cell Biology
- S11- Metabolism/Hormonal Responses
- S12- Developmental Mechanisms 3

Klaus Apel	Bonnie Bartel	David Baulcombe	Philip Benfey	Ton Bisseling
Harro Bouwmeester	Judy Callis	James Carrington	Sudip Chattopadhyay	Gloria Coruzzi
George Coupland	Caroline Dean	Joe Ecker	David Ehrhardt	Mark Estelle
Ken Feldmann	Geoffrey Fincher	Chuck Gasser	Ueli Grossniklaus	Wilhelm Gruissem
Mary Lou Gueriot	Christian Hardtke	Barbara Hohn	Roger Innes	Steve Jacobsen
Jonathan Jones	Rich Jorgensen	Gerd Jurgens	Tatsuo Kakimoto	Maarten Koornneef
Clark Lagarias	Jiayang Li	Bill Lucas	Ligeng Ma	Rob Martienssen
Makoto Matsuoka	Elliot Meyerowitz	Hong Gil Nam	Kiyotaka Okada	Ralph Panstruga
Jane Parker	Javier Paz-Ares	Natasha Raikhel	Ben Scheres	John Schiefelbein
Julian Schroeder	Peter Shaw	Ko Shimamoto	Kazuo Shinozaki	Ken Shirasu
Neelima Sinha	Sauna Somerville	Brian Staskawicz	Tai-Ping Sun	Richard Vierstra
Masamitsu Wada	Weihua Wu	Hongwei Xue	Qifa Zhang	

Workshops:

Rooms will be provided for each of these evenings: June 20, 21 and 23, 7:30pm-9:30pm.

Those who are interested in organizing a workshop should first contact Joanna Friesner (MASC Coordinator, jdfriesner@stanford.edu) with a topic title and tentative speaker list. Deadline: April 15th.

Registration Deadlines

Early-Bird Registration Deadline: **Extended to March 30, 2007**

- Receive discounted registration fees
- Ensure sufficient time to obtain visa to China
- Ensure publication of your abstract in the Abstract book and have it considered for possible oral presentation
- Register online at www.arabidopsis2007.com

Hotel Registration Deadline: **May 10, 2007**

- You must provide us with your credit card number during registration. If you fail to attend, you will be charged a \$100 fee.
- You will only receive the discounted hotel rate by registering through the conference website.

Registration Information

For early planning purposes, all attendees of the Conference are requested to complete online registration <http://www.arabidopsis2007.com> (if you can not complete the online registration, please fill out the attached **Registration Form** and return it to Ms. Zhao Huan no later than **March 30, 2007**).

Ms. Zhao Huan, China Comfort Travel Group Co., Ltd.
12th Floor, Jingchao Plaza , No.5, Nongzhanguan Nanlu Beijing, 100026, China
E-mail: zhaohuan@cct.cn
Fax: +86 10 85951128
Tel: +86 10 65956417

The on-site registration desk will be open beginning at 8:00am on June 20, 2007 and from 8:00 am on other meeting days in **the lobby of the Jiuhua Spa & Resort..**

	Registered and paid before March 30, 2007 (extended)	Registered and paid after March 30, 2007 (extended)
Student/Post doctoral fellow	RMB2,400 (~US\$300)	RMB3,600 (~US\$450)
Regular	RMB3,600 (~US\$450)	RMB4,800 (~US\$600)
Accompanying person and /or children	Free*	Free*

Note*: We will not charge a registration fee if the accompanying person does NOT participate in conference activities (such as talks, coffee breaks, meals, reception and conference dinner). If a family member wants to have the meal plan with the registered attendees, the cost for the entire 3-day meeting period (June 21-23) will be RMB960 (~US\$120) per person. All fees can be paid in RMB (PR China currency) or US dollars.

Registration Fees

The registration fee includes one complimentary abstract submission, admission to all conference sessions and exhibitions, an invitation to the Reception Dinner, three meals for each of the three conference days, coffee breaks, an invitation to the Conference Dinner and Farewell Party, registration bag (Conference bag and conference materials), final program and copies of the Abstract book. Publication of your abstract will be guaranteed upon receipt of your registration fee. The registration fee does not include room cost.

Please refer to the **Refund Policy and Cancellation Charge** if registrants are obliged to cancel their attendance.

If we have not received your registration fee by June 20th, you will need to pay the registration fee when you register on-site. (If you had previously submitted your fee, once it is received it will be returned to you.)

Abstract book

The registration fee (not including an accompanying person registration) includes a copy of the abstract book. Register with payment by **March 30, 2007** (extended from March 20) to ensure publication of your abstract in the abstract book and have it considered for possible oral presentation. For publication, abstracts must be submitted by **May 10, 2007**.

Confirmation

A written confirmation, with invitation letter for your visa to China, will be sent to registrants within 15 days of receipt.

Conference Venue and Hotel Accommodation

The Conference Venue will be at the Jiuhua Spa & Resort (<http://www.jiuhua.com.cn/enindex.asp>) located in northeast Beijing, approximately forty minutes by car from the Beijing International Airport. The Jiuhua Spa & Resort is one of the largest Conference complexes in Beijing and contains complete business and meeting facilities that are supported by a high standard of service.

Conference participants and their accompanying guests will be accommodated at guest rooms in the Jiuhua Spa & Resort. In order to receive the special conference discount rate, hotel reservations should be made online (<http://www.arabidopsis2007.com>) or clearly indicated in the attached **Hotel Reservation Form**.

To guarantee room reservations, payment of deposit or the entire room cost should be made no later than **May 10, 2007**. Rooms at various hotels will be allotted on a first-come first-served basis. Any changes made to the reservation prior to arrival must be communicated to the Conference Secretariat, not to the hotel.

Hotel Room Rate and Deposit per night

Level	Single	Twin
Building No.16 (about 4-5 star) Standard Room	RMB 550 (~US\$69)	RMB 590 (~US\$74)
Building No.10 (about 3 star) Standard Room	RMB 400 (~US\$50)	RMB 440 (~US\$55)

Notes

1. The room rates include service charge (tax) and breakfast.
2. For those who intend to share rooms, please write down your roommate's name on the Hotel Reservation Form.
3. You must provide us with your credit card number during registration. If you fail to attend, you will be charged a RMB800 (or ~US\$100) fee.

Science and Technology Exhibitions

Visit the Science and Technology Booths

Take this unique opportunity to see industry and academic institutions showcase their technologies, programs, and products. During the Conference, an industrial exhibition will be organized in parallel in order to provide excellent opportunities for related companies to display their latest products, equipment, or instruments. The details are as follows:

Exhibition-participation Fee

The cost of a 3m x 3m booth (including 2.45m high walls on three sides, carpeted floor, fascia board with company identification in English, one information desk with two chairs, one 10A/220V socket, one entry for conference and welcome reception and coffee breaks) is **US\$2,000**.

Exhibition-participation Procedures

- A. Send application to the Secretariat before **March 20, 2007** (detailed information will be put on the website: <http://www.arabidopsis2007.com>)
- B. The exhibitors must make a space allocation deposit of 50% of the total participation fee by a bank transfer in US dollars upon confirmation from the Secretariat before **March 20, 2007**. The balance payment should be settled no later than **June 20, 2007**.

Time Table

1. Arrangement and set up of Exhibits: June 21, 2007 (8:00-8:30)
2. Display of Exhibits: June 21-23, 2007 (8:30-17:30)

3. Withdrawal and dismantling of Exhibits: June 23, 2007 (17:30-18:00)

Exhibitors will be provided with the following services

A. Free services:

1. Assistance with visa application and official letter of invitation
2. Assistance with accommodation arrangement
3. Invitation to the Reception Dinner

B. Paid services:

1. Dealing with exhibition freight forwarding after their arrival at Beijing Port
2. Dealing with customs declaration for exhibition freight
3. Assistance to purchase Farewell Party coupons

Those who are interested in being an exhibitor, please contact:

Ms. Chen Songmei, China Comfort Travel Group Co., Ltd.

12th Floor, Jingchao Plaza , No.5, Nongzhanguan Nanlu Beijing, 100026, China

E-mail: chensongmei@cct.cn

CITY TOURS

Beijing's long history means the city has a wealth of historical tourist spots. For your enjoyment while in Beijing, city tours to interesting historic sites will be arranged by China Comfort Travel. Please refer to the website <http://www.arabidopsis2007.com> for details.

TOUR RESERVATION

The tours will offer you very good opportunities to appreciate Chinese culture, ancient civilization, people's daily life and traditions. All tours are quoted on a basis of groups of 10 people and more. The quotations are subject to change if less than 10 people sign up. CCT reserves the right to cancel tours before the beginning of the conference, should the minimum number not be reached. Tours are accompanied by English speaking guides and are subject to change.

Please go to the tour desk for your ticket if you have booked the tours. Lost or misplaced tickets cannot be replaced. No refund can be made for included services not taken.

If a trip is cancelled by CCT, the tour fee will be fully refunded after the conference.

LOCAL TOURS

1 RMB = 0.128123 USD (approximate only- depends on exchange rate)

LT1 Ming Tombs-Lunch-The Great Wall-Art Factory Date: June 22, 2007

Time: 08:30 - 17:30

Price: RMB ¥ 400 per person

The Ming Tombs are a group of mausoleums of 13 Ming emperors. The underground burial chamber of Ming Emperor Wanli is open to the public after its excavation in 1956. The Great Wall was originally built in 221 B.C. The section of Juyongguan we are going to visit was built in the 15th century during the Ming Dynasty and repaired recently.

LT2 Forbidden City-Lunch-Temple of Heaven Date: June 23, 2007

Time: 08:30 - 17:30

Price: RMB ¥ 400 per person

The Forbidden City was the political center of China for nearly 500 years. Today it remains as the most complete and best preserved collection of ancient buildings in China. The Temple of Heaven has been called the noblest example of religious architecture in China.

LT3 Summer Palace-Lunch-Lama Temple Date: June 21, 2007

Time: 08:30 - 17:30

Price: RMB ¥ 320 per person

Built in 1888, the Summer Palace was a resort for the Imperial Court. There are palaces, pavilions, terraces and long corridor stretches out along the northern shore of Kunming Lake. The Lama Temple is the center of learning for the Yellow Hat sect of Tibetan Lamas with considerable religious and political sway. Today there are some 70 Mongolian lamas tending the temple.

LT4 Hutong (Traditional Alleys), Tour on Rickshaw Date: June 21, 2007

Time: 13:30 - 18:00

Price: RMB ¥ 240 per person

This is a tour in residential areas. It is the place where you can experience the local culture, tradition and the informality of ordinary life. To better experience this, the tour will commence on old style tricycles (rickshaw).

LT5 Forbidden City-Tian'anmen Square Date: June 22, 2007

Time: 13:30 - 18:00

Price: RMB ¥ 240 per person

Tian'anmen Square, located in the heart of Beijing, was first built in the Ming Dynasty. It measures over 500 meters from east to west, more than 800 meters from south to north and covers an area of 440,000 square meters.

LT6 Ancient Observatory and Liulichang Antique Street Date: June 23, 2007

Time: 13:00-18:00

Price: RMB ¥ 120 per person

The Beijing Ancient Observatory, built in 1442 A.D., is one of the oldest observatories in the world. There are huge astronomic instruments mounted on the platform and attached buildings of Purple Hall, Eastern and Western Wings, and Sun's Shadow Hall. The overall arrangement is initially from the Ming Dynasty. Liulichang Street, a piece of ancient Chinese culture, is 750 meters long from east to west. It is flanked with antique shops of mock ancient architecture of gilded and carved columns and beams.

LT7 Peking Opera Date: June 21, 2007

Time: 17:00 - 22:00

Price: RMB ¥ 240 per person

The Peking Opera has entertained Beijing natives for over 200 years with its elaborate costumes, ear-splitting arias, dazzling martial arts and musical dialogue. Operas are usually based on folk tales, famous novels and fairy tales. The theater has a subtitle message board in English and Chinese.

LT8 Acrobatic Show Date: June 21, 2007

Time: 17:00 - 22:00

Price: RMB ¥ 200 per person

The Chinese Acrobatic Troupes have traveled to many countries and have amazed audiences everywhere. To watch Chinese acrobatics is an experience at once fanciful and inspirational.

LT9 Wangfujing Street Date: June 23, 2007

Time: 08:30 - 12:00

Price: RMB ¥ 120 per person

Located to the east of Tian'anmen Square, Wangfujing Street is one of the busiest and best-known shopping streets in Beijing.

LT10 Beijing Roast Duck and Peking Opera Date: June 22, 2007**Time: 16:00 - 22:00****Price: RMB ¥ 400 per person**

The Beijing roast duck is a delicacy well-known among gastronomes the world over.

The Peking Opera has entertained Beijing natives for over 200 years with its elaborate costumes, ear-splitting arias, dazzling martial arts and musical dialogue. Operas are usually based on folk tales, famous novels and fairy tales.

The theater has a subtitle message board in English and Chinese.

Note: The local tour fees include an English-speaking tour guide, air-conditioned bus, entrance fees and Chinese lunch (only whole day tours). Children under 1.2 meters (47 inches) pay half price. Local tours are nonrefundable once purchased. Please make the reservation on the registration form and include the relevant costs. Buses for tours will depart from front door parking lot of 16th District, Jiu Hua Spa & Resort with time to be announced.

Pre- & Post-Conference Tours

To allow conference participants to enjoy many historic sites, scenic areas and recent developments in other cities in China, pre- and post-conference tours will be specially arranged by China Comfort Travel. First-class service will be provided. Participants should self-arrange and pay for their own transportation before the pre-tour begins. Detailed information is available at the website <http://www.arabidopsis2007.com>. For many city sites, you may contact the tour company for hotels located within the downtown area.

PRE-CONFERENCE TOURS

1 RMB = 0.128123 USD (approximate only- depends on exchange rate)

PR1: Beijing – Xi'an – Beijing (2 days 1 night)

June 19	Beijing - Xi'an by air, visit the Terra-Cotta Warriors Horses.
June 20	Visit the Big Goose Pagoda, City Wall and Shanxi History Museum. Xi'an to Beijing by air, transfer to Jiu Hua Spa & Resort, tour ends.
Price:	Single Occupancy: RMB ¥ 4650 per person
	Double Occupancy: RMB ¥ 4500 per person

PR2: Beijing – Chengde – Beijing (2 days 1 night)

June 19	Beijing - Chengde by car in the morning, visit the The Potarak Doctrine after lunch, transfer to hotel.
June 20	Visit the Mountain Manor for Avoiding the Summer Heat and Temple of Universal Tranquillity in the morning, back to Beijing after lunch, transfer to Jiu Hua Spa & Resort, tour ends.
Price:	Single Occupancy: RMB ¥ 1880 per person
	Double Occupancy: RMB ¥ 1730 per person

POST-CONFERENCE TOURS**PT1: Beijing-Xi' an-Beijing(2 days 1 night)**

June 24	Beijing -Xi'an by air, visit the Terra-Cotta Warriors Horses.
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June 25	Visit the Big Goose Pagoda, City Wall and Shanxi History Museum. Xi'an-Beijing by air, transfer to Jiuhua Spa & Resort.
June 26	Tour ends after breakfast.
Price:	Single Occupancy: RMB ¥ 5250 per person
	Double Occupancy: RMB ¥ 4850 per person
PT2: Beijing – Hangzhou – Xitang – Suzhou - Shanghai (5 days 4 nights)	
June 24	Beijing-Hangzhou by air, Visit Lingyin Temple, the Peak of Flying and Six Harmonies Pagoda in Hangzhou.
June 25	Visit the Spring of Running Tiger. Cruise trip on West Lake.
June 26	Drive from Hangzhou to Xitang (Water Village), then Drive to Suzhou.
June 27	Visit Tiger Hill, Zhuo Zheng Garden (Humble Administrator's Garden) and silk factory in Suzhou, drive to Shanghai.
June 28	Tour ends after breakfast.
Price:	Single Occupancy: RMB ¥ 8560 per person
	Double Occupancy: RMB ¥ 7600 per person
PT3: Beijing - Xi'an - Guilin - Guangzhou (6 days 5 nights)	
June 24	Beijing -Xi'an by air, visit the Terra-Cotta Warriors Horses.
June 25	Visit the Big Goose Pagoda, City Wall and Shanxi History Museum. Xi'an-Guilin by air, transfer to hotel.
June 26	Visit Reed Flute Kast Cave, Fubo Hill and Elephant's Trunk Hill.
June 27	Li River Cruise.
June 28	Guilin-Guangzhou by air, transfer to hotel, discretionary time.
June 29	Tour ends after breakfast.
Price:	Single Occupancy: RMB ¥ 9020 per person
	Double Occupancy: RMB ¥ 7820 per person

Notes:

1. All tours should be reserved before May 20, 2007.
2. Expense for withdrawal the air ticket will be borne by the participant if the reservation is cancelled after May 20, 2007.
3. **Please fax or E-mail a copy of your PASSPORT to Ms. Zhao Huan with the reservation before May 20, 2007.**
4. The post conference tour fees include intercity transportation, hotel accommodations, regular meals, an English speaking tour guide and entrance fees. You may arrange the flight from the final city of the tour by yourself. The Conference Agency can assist you as well.
5. If no roommate name is indicated in your Registration Form, your room will be arranged as a single occupancy during the tour.
6. The Conference Agency will reserve the right to raise the prices or cancel any of the above tour routes, if there are less than 10 attendees. In that case, the notification will be sent to you as soon as possible and the tour fee can be fully refunded.

General Information

i. Visas

An official invitation letter will be issued to those who have returned the final Registration Form. With this letter, you can go to the nearest Chinese Embassy or Consulate to apply for entry visa(s). To allow ample time for a successful visa application, you are kindly requested to return the final Registration Form before the deadline. If any problem arises, please contact Conference Secretariat for assistance.

ii. Arrival

We will arrange free shuttles from the airport to the Jiuhua Spa & Resort on June 20, 2007, from 8am to midnight. Taxis are always available at the Airport. Taxi fares to the Jiuhua Spa & Resort will be about RMB160 (or about US\$20). The notes below in Chinese may help you in taking a taxi to the hotel.

The traffic map is available at <http://www.jiuhua.com.cn/chinese/15jtdh.htm>

The print version is available at <http://www.jiuhua.com.cn/chinese/jiaotongtu.htm>

Please take me to the Jiuhua Spa & Resort. Thank you!

Address: BeiJingChangPingXiaoTang Mountain

Tel: +8610-61782288-6666

请送我到九华山庄，谢谢！

地址：北京 昌平 小汤山 九华山庄

电话：+8610-61782288-6666

iii. Payment

All payment from non-PRC participants should be in US dollars. The Conference Registration Form must be submitted with the payment of a bank draft, bank transfer or the appropriate credit card information, or the registration will not be processed.

Bank transfer should be made to:

Beneficiary: China Comfort Travel Group Co., Ltd

Account No.: 00100016908091014

Swift Code: BKCHCNBJ

Bank Name: Bank of China, Head Office

Bank Address: 1 Fu Xing Men Nei AVE, West City District, Beijing, 100818 P. R. China

Credit card payment can be made by these credit cards: Visa, Mastercard, and American Express. There will be a 4% service charge calculated on the total amount paid (an obligation by the Bank of China). Note that charges are billed in Chinese RMB. Consequently, the amount charged to your account may vary due to fluctuation in exchange rates.

iv. Refund Policy and Cancellation Charge

Cancellation received by the Secretariat	Before May 20	After May 20
Registration Fee	50% charged	No refund
Pre-and Post-Conference Tour	US\$100 charged	No refund

v. Contact Person

For speaker support or to propose workshops or other meetings:

Dr. Joanna Friesner (USA)
E-mail: jdfriesner@stanford.edu
Alternate: jdfriesner@ucdavis.edu
Tel: 1-530-752-3111
Fax: 1-530-752-3085

For abstract submission:

Ms. Qin Zheng (China)
E-mail: Arabidopsis2007@nibs.ac.cn
Tel: +86 10 80726688 ext.8387
Fax: +86 10 80727509

For registration, hotel reservation, tour application, exhibition, payment and other conference information:

Ms. Chen Songmei, China Comfort Travel Group Co., Ltd
E-mail: chensongmei@cct.cn

Ms. Zhao Huan, China Comfort Travel Group Co., Ltd.
E-mail: zhaohuan@cct.cn
Fax: +86 10 85951128
Tel: +86 10 65956417

vi. Currency Exchange

In China, only RMB (RenMinBi) is used. However, exchange centers can be found at airports, most hotels and large shopping centers. When exchanging money, please keep your receipt so that you can change any remaining RMB back to foreign currency when leaving China. Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Diners Club, JCB, and other credit cards are accepted in many department stores and hotels, but it might be difficult to draw cash with credit cards. The Bank of China and most hotels can cash traveler's checks issued by any foreign bank or financial institution. Participants will need to show a passport and pay a 0.75 percent commission. Traveler's checks signed over to a third party cannot be cashed in China but can be presented for collection through the Bank of China.

vii. Badges

Identification badges are mandatory and are required for admission to all the Conference functions, scientific programs, poster sessions, exhibition areas, and all meals. Individuals who lose their badges will be required to pay a fee to obtain a personalized replacement badge.

viii. Climate and Clothing

June is the beginning of summer in Beijing and average daytime temperatures range from 25°C- 30°C (77°F- 86°F.) We recommend casual T-shirt cotton clothing, sunglasses, caps/hats. All guest rooms are air-conditioned.