

January 21, 2003

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**International Shortcourse on Agroecology 2003  
University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC)  
Santa Cruz, California, July 13-25**

**Special Focus: Agroecology and Rural Communities in Heterogeneous  
Landscapes**

### **Description**

The **International Short Course on Agroecology** for 2003 will be held in Santa Cruz, California July 13-25, 2003. This year we have formed new strategic alliances to give the course a special focus on the interactions between human and ecological communities in rural landscapes. Besides Dr. Stephen R. Gliessman's agroecology research group at the Department of Environmental Studies (UCSC), this course will be jointly organized by the Program in Community and Agroecology (PICA), and the Community and Agroecology Network (CAN).

These new partners will greatly enrich the content, perspectives, and special focus of this year's course. PICA is a living/learning program providing UCSC students opportunities to integrate cultural and ecological knowledge in our search for sustainability. CAN is a recently formed non-government organization, with the objective of supporting agroecological and social development in rural communities of Mesoamerica.

This year's special focus applies an interdisciplinary perspective to the interactions between rural communities and the biophysical components of rural territories. Specifically, the course aims to explore the application of agroecology in the search for the sustainability of human and ecological communities within dynamic and heterogeneous landscapes.

### **Academic Activities**

The course will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and field applications of agroecology. Discussions of course concepts will be complemented with on-farm experiences in research and production problems. Activities will include presentations on specific topics given by invited specialists, group discussions on assigned readings, hands-on lab and field activities, individual and group presentations, field trips to local farms, and the preparation of a case study demonstrating principles of agroecology and sustainability based on agroecosystems in the participant's home area. Participants will receive key texts, bibliographies, and publications in the field of agroecology, and will access the University of California library system and other on-line resources to search the contemporary knowledge-base on agroecology and sustainable agriculture.

## **Instructors**

Dr. Gliessman's Agroecology Research Group of the University of California (<http://www.agroecology.org/people.htm>) will provide core instructors for the course, joined by a host of instructors and specialists from the University of California and other state institutions and organizations. A list of 2001 course instructors is on-line at: <http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse/2001/schedule.htm>.

## **Eligibility**

We encourage applications from research centers, government, non-governmental organizations, universities, private institutions, farmers, teachers, and agricultural professionals interested in agroecology and the promotion of sustainable agriculture. Enrollment is limited to 30 participants. The course will be in English, so a working knowledge of English is required for participation.

## **Requirements for Admission**

Interested candidates should send a short resume and cover letter explaining their background, current work, and reasons for taking the course by the application deadlines listed below. Participants will be selected by a committee and notified of their acceptance within 2 weeks of their application submission, at which time they will need to pay their fees, within the established deadlines below. Upon completion of the full program of the course, participants will be granted a Certificate of Attendance.

## **Fees/Accommodation Options**

The course fee is comprehensive, including all tuition, course & lecture materials, accommodations, three meals per day, field trips and administrative fees. Fees do not include airfare or stays for the period before and after the course. We are offering two payment options depending on the timing of registration. In an effort to facilitate assistance from developing country residents, we have reduced their fees by 15%. Regrettably, at this time we are unable to provide any type of financial support for course participants.

### **Early Registration Package:**

**Application received by March 1, 2003**

**Fees received by April 1, 2003**

*Developed country residents:* \$1850.00 double occupancy; \$2100.00 single occupancy

*Developing country residents:* \$1550.00 double occupancy; \$1800.00 single occupancy

### **Normal Registration Package:\***

**Application received by May 1, 2003**

**Fees received by June 1, 2003**

*Developed country residents:* \$1950.00 double occupancy; \$2200.00 single occupancy

*Developing country residents:* \$1600.00 double occupancy; \$1850.00 single occupancy

\* We'll accept these packages until the enrollment reaches 30 participants.

**Mail:**

International Agroecology Shortcourse  
c/o Dr. Joji Muramoto, Course Organizer  
Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS)  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

**Fax:** 831-459-2867

**Electronic submission:**

Email resume and letter to: [shortcourse@agroecology.org](mailto:shortcourse@agroecology.org)

**note:** please use text within the email message or attach a document in MS word format.

**Payment**

Participants should pay course fees by the dates indicated by bank check or money order in US dollars payable through a United States bank to: **Regents of the University of California** and mailed to the address above. It is also possible to use international bank transfers- email [shortcourse@agroecology.org](mailto:shortcourse@agroecology.org) for more information.

**For More Information**

Information will be continuously updated. For the updated information and questions on the course, please visit the web site at <http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse.htm>, email [shortcourse@agroecology.org](mailto:shortcourse@agroecology.org), or contact the course organizer, **Dr. Joji Muramoto** at Tel. 831-459-2506, Fax. 831-459-2867.

*This document is available on-line at:*

<http://www.agroecology.org/shortcourse/2003/announce.htm>