



Soil contamination in China: Impacts on food safety and mitigation strategies

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Date: April 23, 2018

Time: 2:30 – 3:30PM

Venue: ZS970

**The Hong Kong
Polytechnic University**



Seminar Abstract

Rapid industrialization in China over the last three decades has resulted in soil contamination in some areas, mainly with heavy metals and metalloids, raising concern about the potential impacts on food safety. Food crops produced in some areas of southern China often exceed the maximum permissible limits for certain contaminants, such as cadmium. Dietary intake of cadmium has increased considerably over the last 25 years. The current status of soil contamination and strategies to reduce the bioavailability of heavy metals/metalloids in soil and to minimize their uptake by food crops will be discussed in the seminar.

Biography

Dr. Fang-Jie Zhao is a National “1000-Plan” Scholar and a professor of Environmental Biology at Nanjing Agricultural University. Prior to taking up the position in China, he worked at Rothamsted Research, U.K. for over 20 years, progressing from Higher Scientific Officer to Senior Principal Research Scientist. His research focuses on the biogeochemistry of essential trace elements and toxic metals/metalloids in soil-plant systems, molecular mechanisms of trace element uptake by plants, and bioremediation of contaminated soils. He has published over 260 peer-reviewed journal papers, which have been cited more than 20000 times, with an H-index of 75. He is a Clarivate Analytics “Web of Science” Highly Cited Researcher (Plant & Animal Science category, 2017). He serves as an associated editor of *European Journal of Soil Science*, section editor of *Plant & Soil*, and editorial board member of *Environmental Pollution*.

***** ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME *****

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