

## Successfully held Swiss-Sino 2<sup>nd</sup> Small-Scale Composting Training Workshop & the 1<sup>st</sup> Organic Yun Angelica Forum in 2022

SwissHerbs 瑞士草本

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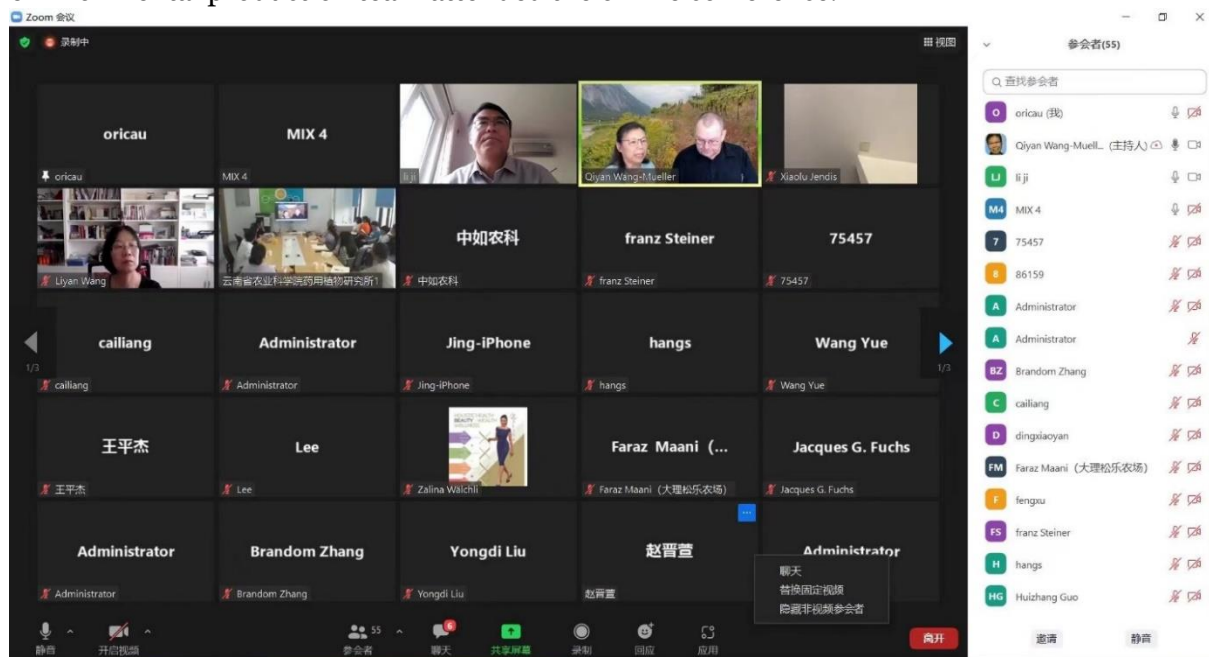
On May 27 (Friday) morning, Swiss-Sino 2nd Small-Scale Composting Training Workshop was successfully held. It was organized by Swiss Chinese Herbal Medicine and Functional Food Innovation Center (SwissHerbs.Org) and Organic Recycling Research Institute (Suzhou) of China Agricultural University (ORICAU), Co-organized by Beijing Key Laboratory of Biodiversity and Organic Farming, China Agricultural University (CAU), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Kunming Zhongru Agricultural Science and Technology Co. LTD, Institute of Medicinal Plants, Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IMP, Yunnan AAS), and Yunhe Village Committee of Xiangfen County. The workshop was carried out at Zoom online, with three live venues, Zurich, Suzhou and Kunming, among them Zurich is the main venue. The participants have reached to more than 100 people total.



Dr. Jacques Fuchs, Senior Research Fellow and Deputy Director of the Academic Committee of the Swiss Chinese Herbal Medicine and Functional Food Innovation Center, and Dr. Liyan Wang, Senior Climate Change and Environment Adviser of the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency (SDC) China office were the keynote speakers.

Dr. Qiyang Wang-Mueller (Swiss Chinese Herbal Medicine and Functional Food Innovation Center) hosted the opening. Prof. Li Ji (ORICAU) chaired the morning lecture while many experts including Prof. Yuhui Qiao (China Agricultural University, IFOAM-Asia), deputy Chief

Engineer Yunguan Xi (Nanjing Institute of Environmental Science, Ministry of Ecology and Environment) attended the lecture online. Many researchers of Institute of Medicinal Plants of Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences and members of Chinese herbal medicine environmental production team attended the online conference.



Dr. Jacques Fuchs' lecture was entitled "Home composting". Based on Dr. Fuchs' experience in composting engineering, the lecture analyzed and explained the way of waste management in Switzerland and the biological principles of the composting process (examples were given on the application of composting in improving soil fertility and enhancing crop disease resistance), composting process management, attention for compost applications.

When talking about the management of composting process, Dr. Fuchs emphasized that temperature control plays a very important role in the quality control and the elimination of pathogenic bacteria and fungi in compost. This argument also became one of the key points discussed by experts in the following composting process and the discussion of Chinese herbal medicine cultivation. Currently, there are differences between China and Switzerland in composting technology and waste recycling. Dr. Fuchs pointed out that waste classifying and recycling make more sense only when there is a market for their products.

Dr Liyan Wang's lecture is entitled "The Power of Individuals, Small Farms and Communities". The lecture focused on SDC's organic waste composting activities in urban and rural farms and communities in China. She talked under three directions : (1) agriculture is the final line of defense for protecting the earth; (2) Crossroads of food system: How to transform ecological agriculture? (3) The power of small farmers, individuals and communities. According to the data released by SDC, the amount of nitrogen fertilizer and phosphate fertilizer applied in China is much higher than that of other countries in the world. Meanwhile, the amount of fertilizer applied in China is still increasing with years. Dr. Wang proposed: "Eco-agriculture is the hope of the future. We need to build a diverse and resilient production system, enhancing biodiversity through a crop-livestock-fish-agroforestry hybrid system!" In the following report,

Dr. Wang shared the results of her analysis and comparison of compost made from different materials, including physical and chemical parameters, pH value, salt content, humus composition, HA/FA ratio and germination rate.

On the afternoon of May 27 (Friday), the 1st Organic Yun Angelica Forum in 2022, co-hosted by Swiss Chinese Herbal Medicine and Functional Food Innovation Center, Kunming Zhongru Agricultural Science and Technology Co. LTD, and Institute of Medicinal Plants, Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences was successfully held. The conference is carried out at Zoom online, with Zurich main venue and Kunming sub-venue. Dr. Qiyang Wang-Mueller, director of SwissHerbs, presided over the forum. Ms. Xin Wang (Institute of Medicinal Plants, Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences), commissioner of Yunnan Provincial science and technology, training target of scientific and technological innovation talents, and expert of Chinese herbal Medicine Planting and Breeding Association, served as the keynote speaker.

Ms. Wang gave the talk with theme of "Collaboration to Energizing the High-Quality Development of Yun Angelica". The contents included industrial profile, breeding technology of fine seed, high quality and efficient cultivation techniques, organic production practice of Yun Angelica, and the international joint innovation team members. At the panel discussion stage, participating experts emphasized the technical innovation on cultivation & management of Yun Angelica and research and development of the whole industry chain cooperation. It is agreed that Yun angelica industry development will take a new height with the support of Swiss Chinese Herbal Medicine and Functional Food Innovation Center (SwissHerbs).

Swiss Chinese Herbal Medicine and Functional Food Innovation Center (SwissHerbs.Org) was established under the global COVID-19 outbreak. Even facing with severe challenge, SwissHerbs together with international cooperative partners, such as universities, research institutes, government agencies have successfully held several international online training workshops and conferences. They have received consistent praise. In the future, SwissHerbs will further strengthen the cooperation with partners on international project application, cultivation of talents, contributing to the development of organic agriculture.

Text: Xiaoying Xu, Pingyin Guan, Qiyang Wang-Mueller

Picture: Qiyang Wang-Mueller

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