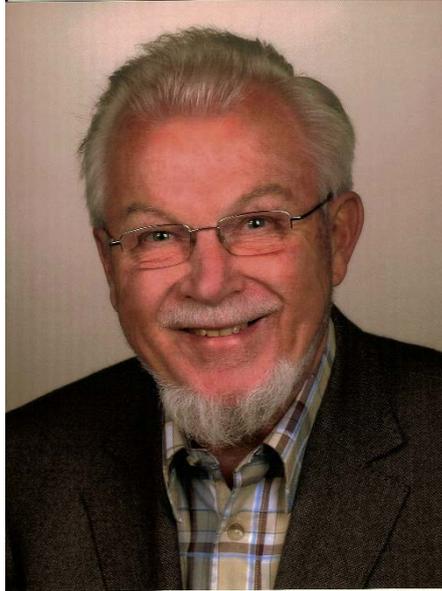


Prof. Dr. agr. Johannes C. G. Ottow, MSc.



* 4.09.1935 † 20.08.2011

Born as son of a forest inspector in Madioen, formerly Dutch East India. Studied agricultural sciences at the Agricultural University of Wageningen and from 1965 as a DAAD scholarship holder agricultural sciences (Dipl.-Ing.), specialising in "plant production", minor subjects "microbiology" and "regional soil science" in Giessen. 1965-1966: Additional studies in microbiology and biochemistry at Kansas State University, Division of Biology, USA (Master of Science). 1969: Doctorate (Dr. agr.) in Giessen on microbial iron reduction in soils under Professor Hans Glathe. 1970-1974: Scientific assistant at the Institute of Microbiology, Department of Biology, TH Darmstadt. 1974: Appointment as Professor of Soil Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Stuttgart-Hohenheim. 1975-1980: Managing Director. Research topics: Processes of soil formation with focus on microbial processes of soil formation. After the appointment of Mr. Marschner to the Institute of Plant Nutrition in Hohenheim, focus on the rhizosphere and, together with Prof. Lingens, the microbial degradation of aromatic compounds in soil humus. In teaching focus on the central role of microorganisms in soils, waters, wastewater and their interactions in the phyllosphere and rhizosphere. In addition to anaerobic iron respiration, denitrification processes in the soil are becoming increasingly important in his research. 1986: Appointment to the Chair of General and Soil Microbiology of the Department of Agricultural Sciences, Ecotrophology and Environmental Management, which he headed until his retirement in 1999. Research focus: degradation of pesticides, effects of nitrification inhibitors and denitrification.

Mr. Ottow was the Chairman of the Commission for Soil Biology of the German Soil Science Society (DBG; 1977 - 1985) and President of the Commission within the International Soil Science Union (IUSS; 1986 - 1990). As chairman of the Commission for Soil Biology of the DBG he organized several workshops together with the DBG Commission for Soil Chemistry and the Section "Agricultural Microbiology" of the Verband Deutscher Landwirtschaftlicher Untersuchungs- und Forschungsanstalten (VDLUFA).

1985: Foundation of the interdisciplinary journal "Biology and Fertility of Soils" of which he was Editor-in-Chief until 31 December 1999. Research cooperations: Soil fertility studies in wet rice cultivation in the tropics, in cooperation with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines, and WARDA, West African Rice Research Association, Bouake, Ivory Coast. As a member of the ATSAF e.V. (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Tropische und Subtropische Agrarforschung) in Bonn, guest lecturer at the University of Tokyo, Japan, and at the University of Manado, Sulawesi, Indonesia.

1999: Awarded the Sprengel-Liebig Medal in Gold by the Verband Deutscher Landwirtschaftlicher Forschungs- und Untersuchungsanstalten (VDLUFA) for his services to German and international soil microbiology.