

ISFWP-XII, August 10-15 2012



## **Paleosols, pedosediments and landscape morphology as environmental archives**

### **First Announcement**

*10-15 August, 2013, Kursk & Voronezh regions, Russia*

#### **ORGANIZERS:**

*Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences*

*Moscow State University, Soil Science Institute*

*V.V. Dokuchaev Soil Science Institute*

*Institute of History and Material Culture, Russian Academy of Sciences*

*Kursk State University*

*Lipetsk State University*

*Government of Kursk region, Ecological Department*

*V.V. Alekhin Central- Chernozemic State Biospheric Reserve*

*Natural Architectural-Archaeological Museum-Resort "Divnogor'e"*

*IUSS Commission on Paleopedology*

*Dokuchaev Soil Science Society, Russia*

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*M.I. Lylova* - Natural-architectural museum-resort “Divnogor’e”, Russia

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*A.N. Bessudnov* – Lipetsk State University, Russia

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### GENERAL INFORMATION AND TASKS

Conference venue (for academic sessions August 12, 13): Kursk State University

<http://www.kursksu.ru/pages/foreign>

Official language: English

XII<sup>th</sup> ISFWP is planned as a traditional activity of IUSS Commission on Paleopedology which implicates joint scientific symposium and field seminar. A backbone issue both for field and academic parts of the event is *Soil, geomorphic, sedimentary records of Pleistocene and Holocene climatic changes*.

The main task of the field seminar is to demonstrate the unique loess-paleosol sections, Paleolithic sites, alluvial and colluvial pedosedimentary sequences including Late

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Pleistocene and Holocene paleosols.

A special attention will be paid also to famous Russian Chernozems. Classical views and modern concepts concerning their genesis will be discussed near spectacular sections of these soils. Paleoenvironmental implications and Pre-Holocene heritage of Chernozems will be discussed. We consider the field part of the action to be exiting and important opportunity for getting joint field experience and open discussions on paleosol genesis and paleoenvironment.

The field part consist of pre-conference tour in Kursk region (August 10, 11) and post-conference tour in Voronezh region (August 14, 15).

Preliminary list of sessions (key topics) for scientific symposium is set below (will be corrected in accordance with feedback from participants):

1. Loess- and tephra-paleosol sequences;
2. Alluvial and colluvial soil-sedimentary sequences;
3. Paleosols and pedosediments of human habitats;
4. Surface paleosols and relic features in modern profiles. Chernozems as paleo-environmental archives;
5. Pre-quaternary paleosols: paleoecology and post-burial changes;
6. Biological markers in paleosols

### GENERAL SCHEDULE

**August 9:** The departure of participants to Kursk is recommended by train No 105G Moscow-Kursk at 22:24.

#### ***Pre-conference tour:***

- **August 10:** Geological monument Alexandrovskiy quarry with the most comprehensive soil-sedimentary sequence of the Late Pleistocene. Central Chernozemic State Biospheric Reserve: herbaceous meadow steppes - the unique patch of never ploughed Russian Chernozem.
- **August 11:** Kursk biosphere station: a Valdai loess section with Chernozem.
- Korennaya Pustyn' Monastery. Military memorial of the Battle of Kursk (Second World War). Mid-Holocene buried soil in Senovaya gully.
- **August 12, 13:** Scientific sessions at Kursk State University. Sightseeing in

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Kursk. XII<sup>th</sup>-ISFWP gala dinner.

***Post-conference tour:***

- **August 14:** Transfer Kursk - Kostenky. World famous Paleolithic site Kostenky: habitation deposits and paleosols related to MIS3 and MIS2 (44000 – 22000 yrs. B.P.), Paleolithic museum (Paleolithic dwelling built of mammoth bones and Paleolithic art); Holocene soil-sedimentary sequence in the floodplain of the Don River. Transfer Kostenky - Divnogor'e. Barbeque.
- **August 15:** Natural Architectural-Archaeological Museum-Resort Divnogor'e: A Late Paleolithic location of numerous horse bones and archaeological site dated as ~13000 yrs. B.P., paleo-lacustrine sediments and weakly developed soils related to MIS2. Holocene soil-sedimentary sequence in a floodplain of Don River. Natural museum-resort: beautiful views of Cretaceous plateau with valleys of Tikhaya Sosna and Don rivers, "Divy" – residual erosion forms of Cretaceous rocks, the mediaeval cave church Mayatskaya, relic Neogene plants. Transfer Divnogor'e - Liski. Departure by train No 83V Liski-Moscow at 19.26.

**REGISTRATION FEE AND OTHER PAYMENTS**

**Registration fee** is 120 € (discount for students and post graduates is supposed depending on funds of the conference). Registration fee will cover: transfer from Kursk railway station to a hotel, conference set, coffee breaks, and lunches during the academic sessions (August 12 & 13).

***Train tickets to and from Kursk, breakfasts, dinners and accommodation in Kursk (two nights) are not included into the fee.***

**XII<sup>th</sup>-ISFWP gala dinner** – 30 € (August, 12)

**Pre-conference tour** (August 10 & 11) – 90 € including all transfers, excursions and lunches during the excursions. ***Accommodation in Kursk, breakfasts and dinners are not included in the fee.***

**Post-conference tour** (August 14 & 15) – 140 € including all transfers, excursions, meals (with the exception of breakfast on August 14), accommodation in Divnogor'e tourist complex and Barbeque.

***For the participants of both pre-conference and post-conference tours the total fee for two field trips is 200 €.***

*Payment options will be announced personally to the pre-registered participants.*

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### ACCOMODATION

Organizers will assist in accommodation (more information will be presented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular). General options and current prices for the accommodation in Kursk could be checked at [http://www.hotels.ru/eng/hotels/russia/kursk/hotels\\_list.htm/](http://www.hotels.ru/eng/hotels/russia/kursk/hotels_list.htm/)

### PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Organizers will send official invitation upon your request in registration form. Participants are strongly advised to check on visa requirements with their nearest Russian Embassy or Consulate.

### TRAVELING AND TOURIST SERVICE

There is no regular flight connection between Kursk and most of international airports. Participants are recommended to arrive by train Moscow-Kursk No105. The participants of the post-conference tour are recommended to return Moscow by the train No83 from Liski (Voronezh region). Participants should book and buy train tickets by themselves via electronic booking systems or travel agents. Touristic assistance and special needs such as meeting at the airport, transfers in Moscow, booking of train tickets to Kursk and back to Moscow, hotel booking at lower prices in Moscow and elsewhere, individual tours over Russia etc. will be possible via the conference partners. Optimized and safe options for touristic service will be announced in the second circular.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**December 31, 2012** - preliminary registration for scientific sessions and field tours via conference site [paleopedology.msu.ru/paleopedology2013](http://paleopedology.msu.ru/paleopedology2013) (number of participants of field excursions is limited).

**January 15, 2013** - 2nd Circular (according to pre-registration)

**March 31, 2013** - registration, abstracts submission, and payments (banking details will be announced in the second circular) have to be completed

### CONTACTS

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Please visit the conference website [paleopedology.msu.ru/paleopedology2013](http://paleopedology.msu.ru/paleopedology2013) for detail information and updates.

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- 1 – Late Pleistocene loess-paleosol sequence in Alexandrovskiy quarry;
- 2 – Feather grass steppe;
- 3 – Chernozem formed on Valdai loess, Kursk biosphere station ;
- 4 – Cretaceous landscape in Divnogor'e;
- 5 – Alluvial soil-sedimentary sequence in the floodplain of Don River, Kostenky;
- 6 – Don River and soil-sedimentary sequence in its precipitous bank;
- 7 – archaeological excavation Kostenky-14.