## Reducing Summer Fallow Area as Part of Conservation Strategy in Semi-Arid Steppe of Northern Kazakhstan. (A06-suleimenov023832-Oral)

Authors:

- M.Suleimanov\* ICARDA, CAC, Tashkent
- K.Akshalov ICARDA, CAC, Tashkent

## **Abstract:**

In northern Kazakhstan a cropping system has been based on continuous spring wheat rotated with fallow once in 4-5 years. Main reason for fallow is weed control, and water accumulation. Study on possibility of reducing summer fallow area were initiated in 1983 because fallow is a major farming practice causing wind and water erosion. In the study a generally adopted five course rotation fallow-wheat-wheat-barley-wheat was compared with continuous grains when fallow was replaced by oats. Fallow was found to accumulate more water only by 5-15% as compared to stubble land at the same intensity of technology. Accordingly, wheat grain yield after oats as compared to that after fallow was obtained higher only by 2- 8.9%. But grain yield increased with intensity of technologies from 0.98 to 2.01 t/ha on fallow, while on stubble land from 0.96- up to 1.91 t/ha. The grain yield from total area including fallow was always higher with no fallow by 20-27%. In all treatments continuous grains were found more economical than rotated with fallow.

**Corresponding Author Information:** 

Mekhlis Suleimenov ICARDA, CAC, Tashkent ICARDA, Uzbekistan Office, P.O.Box 4564, Tashkent Tashkent 4564 Uzbekistan phone: (+998-71) 1372169 fax: (+998-71) 1207125 e-mail: CAC-Tashkent@ICARDA.Org.Uz

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