

# SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

## CONTENTS

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

|   |   |
|---|---|
| German science ties promoted .....  | 3 |
| Premier Li urges more efforts in basic sciences .....                           | 3 |
| China to take lead position in research .....                                   | 3 |
| China budgets over 13 bln yuan for major research programs in 2018.....         | 3 |
| Innovation the key to China's development .....                                 | 4 |
| Approach to cultivate high-manganese, low cadmium rice found .....              | 4 |
| China's GM rice Huahui-1 gets FDA nod.....                                      | 4 |
| China to expand trials of crop rotation, fallow systems .....                   | 4 |
| Information and digital technologies can help revitalize the rural economy..... | 5 |
| Artificial intelligence is being used to raise better pigs in China .....       | 5 |
| Chinese farmers fight against global "citrus killer" .....                      | 5 |
| How China Plans to Feed 1.4 Billion Growing Appetites .....                     | 5 |

### ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

|   |   |
|---|---|
| China to create new forests covering area size of Ireland .....                     | 6 |
| Plan issued to improve water quality in China's second-largest freshwater lake..... | 6 |
| Beginning of the end: ivory trade finished in China.....                            | 6 |
| Change to environmental tax means polluters will have to pay the price .....        | 6 |
| Beijing reaches PM2.5 reduction goal in 2017 .....                                  | 7 |
| Upheaval over ban on waste imports .....  | 7 |
| China introduces toughest ever regulation on land reclamation .....                 | 7 |
| China to target irregular enterprises in nationwide pollution control.....          | 7 |

### ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

|   |   |
|---|---|
| China unveils policy for NEV battery recycling .....            | 8 |
| China can point way on energy, experts say .....                | 8 |
| China to expand production, consumption of bioethanol fuel..... | 8 |
| China's lust for jaguar fangs imperils big cats .....           | 8 |

### AGRI-BUSINESS AND TRADE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Chinese Are Giving up on Meat and Turning Vegetarian..... | 9 |
| Survey on China's pesticides market .....                 | 9 |



# SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

|  |    |
|--|----|
| E-commerce key to modernized farming .....   | 9  |
| China's potato production to rebound; demand for french fries and chips stronger ..... | 9  |
| China's farming costs to rise in 2018 as fertilizer prices jump.....                   | 10 |
| China supersizes pig farms to cut costs in world's top pork market.....                | 10 |
| USDA issues soy planting, export tips as China trade tensions mount.....               | 10 |
| Internet boosts rural development.....   | 10 |
| <b>AGRICULTURAL POLICIES</b>   |    |
| Ways to revitalize the agricultural sector .....                                       | 11 |
| No 1 document gives rural strategy flesh on the bones .....                            | 11 |
| Rural, farming reforms bearing fruits .....  | 11 |
| China Keywords: Rural vitalization .....   | 11 |
| Agricultural brand improvement campaign .....  | 12 |
| China establishes agriculture think tank .....   | 12 |
| China extends pilot plan to mortgage rural land rights.....                            | 12 |
| China to hold officials to account for protecting farmland .....                       | 12 |
| China expands range of produce quality monitoring.....                                 | 13 |
| China to pump up support for rural startups .....                                      | 13 |
| China moves to ensure fertilizer output for spring planting as supplies tighten .....  | 13 |
| Hebei urged to rectify land reclamation problems.....                                  | 13 |
| China to impose annual fishing ban in Yellow River .....                               | 14 |
| Demonstration zones to harvest new crop of agricultural expertise .....                | 14 |
| China's organic food firms need help to keep growing .....                             | 14 |
| China to review anti-dumping duties on EU potato starch .....                          | 14 |
| Ministry to promote rural development .....  | 15 |
| <b>NEWS FROM DCZ AND PARTNERS</b>  |    |
| Database to go online soon.....  | 16 |
| Phase 1 of the DCZ coming to an end .....  | 16 |
| Phase 2 of the DCZ will start on April 1st 2018 .....                                  | 17 |
| Announcements of upcoming events .....   | 17 |



## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

### **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

#### **German science ties promoted**

[China Daily, 28.02.2018] -- This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Sino-German Intergovernmental Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement, which is a key platform for scientific collaboration between the two nations. According to officials from the two countries, China and Germany will strengthen cooperation in scientific fields in order to tackle global issues and help achieve green and sustainable socioeconomic development through innovation.

[Full article](#)

#### **Premier Li urges more efforts in basic sciences**

[english.gov.cn, 04.01.2018] -- On January 3, 2018, Premier Li Keqiang attended a State Council executive meeting and he highlighted that more efforts should be made to support mathematics and other fundamental sciences in order to raise the nation's level of original innovation. Decisions were also made at the meeting to expand international cooperation on scientific research and to train and attract more strategic technology talent.

[Full article](#)

#### **China to take lead position in research**

[English.gov.cn, 25.01.2018] -- On January 24, 2018, officials said that China planned to lead major international science projects in climate change, space exploration and neuroscience technologies in the near future. According to Cao Jinghua, the director of international cooperation at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China plans to incorporate the North and South Poles into its existing "Third Pole" (the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau) research.

[Full article](#)

#### **China budgets over 13 bln yuan for major research programs in 2018**

[Xinhua, 07.01.2018] -- According to the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), the Chinese government has budgeted over 13 billion yuan (2 billion U.S. dollars) for major research and development programs in 2018. The programs consist of 40 special projects and more than 600 minor projects, covering four major fields including social development, high-tech research, agricultural science and technology, and fundamental research.

[Full article](#)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



### **Innovation the key to China's development**

[Xinhua, 27.02.2018] -- The famous calling: "Science and technology are primary productive forces" has inspired the Chinese people. After three decades, In October 2017, a report at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China also stressed that innovation was the primary driving force behind development. China is not satisfied with being the world's factory.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

### **Approach to cultivate high-manganese, low cadmium rice found**

[China Daily, 03.01.2018] -- According to a statement issued by the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), a major quantitative trait locus (QTL) that can be used to cultivate high-manganese, low cadmium rice has been founded by Chinese researchers. They created a strain combined with a high-manganese strain and a low-manganese strain, and detected a major QTL via a high-density genetic map.

[Full article](#)

### **China's GM rice Huahui-1 gets FDA nod**

[ECNS.cn, 22.01.2018] -- Dennis M. Keefe, director of the FDA's Office of Food Additive Safety in the United States, has sent an approval letter e-mail to Huazhong Agricultural University. In the letter, he said "it is our understanding that Huazhong has concluded that human and animal foods from Huahui-1 rice grain are not materially different in composition, safety, and other relevant parameters from rice-derived human and animal food currently on the market."

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

### **China to expand trials of crop rotation, fallow systems**

[Xinhua, 23.02.2018] -- On February 23, 2018, an agriculture official said that China would expand trials of crop rotation and fallow systems in order to aid the green and sustainable development of agriculture. According to Zeng Yande, an official with the Ministry of Agriculture, the crop rotation and fallow systems will cover more than 50 million mu (3.33 million hectares) by 2020.

[Full article](#)

# SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



## **Information and digital technologies can help revitalize the rural economy**

[China Daily, 07.02.2018] -- On February 4, 2018, the Central Authorities published the 2018 No 1 document. According to Beijing News, this year's No 1 document outlines a set of specific measures to implement the rural revitalization strategy, which is the top-level design of solutions to key issues related to farmers, agriculture and villages in the new era. The fast development of information and digital technologies can effectively prompt the modernization of agriculture and the countryside, and the booming of the rural economy.

[Full article](#)

## **Artificial intelligence is being used to raise better pigs in China**

[Quartz, 15.02.2018] -- As the largest e-commerce company in China, Alibaba lately made forays into artificial intelligence and cloud computing. It is using AI to improve traffic and city planning and increase airport efficiency through a program it calls ET Brain. On February 6, 2018, Alibaba's Cloud Unit signed an agreement with the Tequ Group, a Chinese food-and-agriculture conglomerate, to deploy facial and voice recognition on Tequ's pig farms.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

## **Chinese farmers fight against global "citrus killer"**

[Xinhua, 06.02.2018] -- In the southern Chinese city of Lianjiang, Blood orange growers have long ditched chemical fertilizers. They did so to help their groves survive "the yellow dragon," a deadly disease threatening citrus groves in Asia, Africa and America. In China, the disease, also known as Huanglongbing, wreaks havoc in more than 10 citrus-growing regions.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

## **How China Plans to Feed 1.4 Billion Growing Appetites**

[nationalgeographic.com, 25.02.2018] -- At present, the Chinese government is facing a daunting conundrum: how to feed nearly one-fifth of the world's population with less than one-tenth of its farmland, while adapting to changing tastes. Because China's agricultural resources are so modest, meeting this demand means heading abroad. Therefore, the government encourages and helps Chinese companies to acquire farmland and food companies abroad.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

### **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES**

#### **China to create new forests covering area size of Ireland**

[Reuters, 05.01.2018] -- On January 5, 2018, China Daily reported that the Chinese government aimed to increase forest coverage to 23 percent of its total landmass by the end of the decade. Therefore, it would plant new forests covering an area roughly the size of Ireland this year. Planting trees has become a key part of China's efforts to improve its environment and tackle climate change.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

[Link to original article](#)

#### **Plan issued to improve water quality in China's second-largest freshwater lake**

[Xinhua, 12.01.2018] -- Recently, an action plan was released by Central China's Hunan Province in order to improve the environment of Dongting Lake, the second-largest freshwater lake in China. Known as "the kidney of the Yangtze River," Dongting Lake is one of the most important wetlands in China and the world. But water in the lake has been polluted and resources have been illegally exploited in recent years.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

#### **Beginning of the end: ivory trade finished in China**

[Xinhua, 31.12.2017] -- On December 31, 2017, the Chinese government closed its doors to the ivory trade. At the same time, the world started 2018 a step closer to a land free of the slaughter of endangered animals. China honored its commitment to ending commercial processing and sales of ivory by the end of 2017, the State Forestry Administration has said, adding it was China's "new year gift to the elephant."

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

#### **Change to environmental tax means polluters will have to pay the price**

[english.sepa.gov.cn, 02.01.2018] -- On January 1, 2018, the Chinese government replaced the environmental pollution fee with the environmental protection tax. The rate of the tax would be determined by the seriousness of the pollution which was indicated by the environmental watchdogs' monitoring statistics.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, January 2018)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



### **Beijing reaches PM2.5 reduction goal in 2017**

[english.sepa.gov.cn, 08.01.2018] -- According to the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Environmental Protection, Beijing reported an annual average PM2.5 concentration of 58 microgram per cubic meter in 2017, reaching the reduction goal set by China's State Council. With improved air quality and favorable meteorological conditions, concentrations of all major air pollutants such as PM2.5 in the Chinese capital have gone down in 2017 compared to 2016.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, January 2018)

### **Upheaval over ban on waste imports**

[english.sepa.gov.cn, 12.01.2018] -- In order to foster cleaner growth, the Chinese government will refuse to 24 types of material for recycling. The policy is likely to come into force in March. The move has proved controversial, because China is a major market for global recyclables, and some exporting countries say it will cause a certain degree of turmoil.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, January 2018)

### **China introduces toughest ever regulation on land reclamation**

[english.seap.gov.cn, 18.01.2018] -- On January 17, 2018, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) said that it would demolish or shut down all illegally reclaimed land and illegally established waste discharge outlets that damage the marine environment. It was considered as the toughest regulation on land reclamation along the country's coastline.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, January 2018)

### **China to target irregular enterprises in nationwide pollution control**

[China Daily, 28.02.2018] -- According to Liu Bingjiang, an official with the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP), a pollution control campaign will be spread to more areas of the country as it has proven effective in 28 pollution-heavy cities. The campaign targets enterprises that are not in line with local land and industrial planning.

[Full article](#)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

### **ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY**

#### **China unveils policy for NEV battery recycling**

[China Daily, 27.02.2018] -- On February 26, 2018, a guideline on recycling new energy vehicle (NEV) batteries has been published by Chinese authorities. China encourages the research of NEV battery recycling and relevant cooperation between research institutions and industrial entities.

[Full article](#)

#### **China can point way on energy, experts say**

[China Daily, 19.01.2018] – According to Frank Shang, general manager of strategy for Longi Green Energy Technology Co, China is currently the biggest investor in renewable energy and has thus gained a lot of knowledge in the field. At the same time, an energy expert expressed that Chinese know-how in renewable energy development could help generate clean and sustainable power in Africa, where more than 600 million people do not have electricity.

[Full article](#)

#### **China to expand production, consumption of bioethanol fuel**

[Xinhua, 17.02.2018] -- Bioethanol is a form of renewable energy that can be produced from crops such as corn and potatoes. According to the State Administration of Grain (SAG), the Chinese government will expand production and consumption of bioethanol fuel in 2018 as the country wants to seek more channels to use corn and grain stockpiles. Outlining the work priorities for 2018, the SAG said it will accelerate the use of grain stockpiles.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

#### **China's lust for jaguar fangs imperils big cats**

[Nature, 23.02.2018] -- In China, the market for jaguars could be increasing because of crackdowns on the smuggling of tiger parts used in Chinese traditional medicine. Therefore, a trafficking route of jaguar has emerged to China in recent years. Vincent Nijman, ecologist of Oxford Brookes University in Oxford, UK, said that wildlife trafficking often followed Chinese construction projects in other countries, because Chinese workers can send or take objects home.

[Full article](#)



## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

### **AGRI-BUSINESS AND TRADE**

#### **Chinese Are Giving up on Meat and Turning Vegetarian**

[www.news18.com, 26.02.2018] -- As the world's largest market for beef, pork and poultry, China is steadily growing wary of meat as health-conscious Chinese people are taking to a vegetarian diet. As a result, a large number of vegan restaurants emerged. According to a recent report compiled by the South China Morning Post, the niche market of vegetarian and vegan eateries has never been more competitive.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

#### **Survey on China's pesticides market**

[Eshare.cnchemicals.com, 04.01.2018] – The pesticide market in China experienced a constant development because of the governmental efforts to improve technology and environment. According to the new market research report Survey of Pesticide Industry in China published by CCM, China has become the leading pesticide producer, consumer, and exporter globally in recent years.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

#### **E-commerce key to modernized farming**

[China Daily, 19.01.2018] -- Since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held in October 2017, implementing the national strategy of revitalizing rural villages and townships has become a hot topic. So-called "internet plus agriculture" was identified as an important way for modernizing agriculture. To deliver the four elements of internet plus agriculture, there is room for the government and the private sector to work together.

[Full article](#)

#### **China's potato production to rebound; demand for french fries and chips stronger**

[Potatonewstoday.com, 20.12.2017] -- Due to an expansion of potato growing area, 2017/18 fresh potato production in China, the largest potato producer in the world, is forecast at 97 million metric tons (MMT). At the same time, China's Frozen French Fries (FFF) production is equally expected to increase.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



### **China's farming costs to rise in 2018 as fertilizer prices jump**

[Reuters, 17.01.2018] -- On January 17, 2018, an agriculture ministry official expressed that agriculture production costs in China were set to rise fairly quickly in 2018 because of higher fertilizer and pesticide prices. Domestic urea prices rose 34.0 percent in December on a year earlier and compound fertilizer rose 17.1 percent due to higher raw materials prices and falling operating rates at fertilizer producers.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

### **China supersedes pig farms to cut costs in world's top pork market**

[Reuters, 07.02.2018] – By the end of 2018, 10,000 sows will be living inside two huge barns in Xinguang'an, a county surrounded by mountains in a remote part of southwestern China. This kind of farm is one of a record number of large-scale projects that will be built in China in 2018. It shifts a big chunk of its pork production from backyard pig pens to automated, intensive hog barns of the kind widely used in the United States.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

### **USDA issues soy planting, export tips as China trade tensions mount**

[Reuters, 27.02.2018] – On February 27, grower and grain exporter guidelines were issued the US Department of Agriculture in order to reduce weed seeds in US soybean shipments, after the Chinese government tightened import specifications on the most valuable US agricultural export. The move is intended to soothe rising tension over agricultural trade China and the US after a recent series of trade spats.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 59, November 2017)

### **Internet boosts rural development**

[Global Times, 07.02.2018] -- In Xieqiao, a small village located in East China's Jiangsu Province, most of the corn and wheat grown on the farmlands will go toward making bunches of "dried flowers" instead of putting on people's dining tables. Zhang Zhan was the first villager in the village to make dried flowers. "They all believed I was crazy and some even took me as a liar," he said, recalling how he eventually persuaded his fellow villagers to join him in making the flowers over 10 years ago.

[Full article](#)

## SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)

### AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

#### Ways to revitalize the agricultural sector

[China Daily, 02.01.2018] -- As part of China's overall strategy to build a prosperous and strong country, the rural revitalization strategy is mentioned in the report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. It aims to help rural residents to lead a better life, and that goal can be achieved only with the strong support of a modern economic system. To improve the mechanism and policy system of integrative urban-rural development, the authorities should change the old relationship between urban and rural areas.

[Full article](#)

#### No 1 document gives rural strategy flesh on the bones

[China Daily, 05.02.2018] -- Although China has witnessed marked rural and agricultural development over the years, some pressing issues have now become prominent. In this year's No. 1 document released on February 4 2018, the central government has set out a package of policies aimed at setting in motion the revitalization strategy for rural areas. This strategy was first outlined at the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the CPC in October 2017 by top leader Xi Jinping.

[Full article](#)

#### Rural, farming reforms bearing fruits

[China Daily, 04.02.2018] -- The rural revitalization strategy was first put up in the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Meanwhile, this year's No.1 central document has prescribed measures to facilitate the implementation of the strategy in an all-round way. Thanks to rural and agricultural modernization in China, rural residents' production capacity and living conditions have been continuously improving.

[Full article](#)

#### China Keywords: Rural vitalization

[Xinhua, 05.02.2018] -- China's No 1 document was released on February 4 this year. As usual, it is devoted to agriculture, farmers and rural areas. According to the document, through rural vitalization, China expects to see a strong agricultural sector, a beautiful countryside and well-off farmers. The new document charts a roadmap for rural vitalization, a key part of the country's efforts to build a modernized economy.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



### **Agricultural brand improvement campaign**

[China Daily, 17.01.2018] -- In order to build a batch of agricultural brands with wide social influence, an agricultural brand improvement campaign, which aims to strengthen agricultural brand recognition, will be launched by the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) in 2018. According to Tang Ke, director of the market and economic information department of the Ministry of Agriculture, local regions will be encouraged to build regional brands.

[Full article](#)

### **China establishes agriculture think tank**

[China Daily, 26.01.2018] -- On January 26, 2018, the Institute for China Agricultural Development Strategy was established. The institute, which was jointly launched by CAAS and the Chinese Academy of Engineering, aims to become a world-class think tank for the Chinese government. It will focus on cutting-edge agricultural sciences and technologies and conduct research of strategic and global importance covering a wide range of areas.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

### **China extends pilot plan to mortgage rural land rights**

[Xinhua, 27.12.2018] -- On December 27, 2017, a decision to extend a pilot program allowing farmers in selected areas to mortgage their land use rights and housing property rights was approved by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) at a bimonthly session. The pilot program over the past two years has achieved strong results, with improvement in rural financial services and higher incomes for farmers.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2017)

### **China to hold officials to account for protecting farmland**

[Reuters, 19.01.2018] -- As part of its efforts to guarantee food production amid soaring levels of urbanization, the Chinese government plans to hold government officials to account for protecting farmland. According to new guidelines issued by the State Council on January 14, 2018, local governments will be held fully responsible for retaining and protecting arable land under their jurisdiction.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

[Link to original article](#)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



### **China expands range of produce quality monitoring**

[Xinhua, 23.01.2018] -- In order to improve food safety in China, the Chinese government will expand the range of its produce quality monitoring according to the Ministry of Agriculture. The produce quality monitoring mechanism started in Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and Shenzhen in 2001 and now covers over 150 cities in 31 provincial regions. The overall pass rate for sample testing stood at 97.8 percent in 2017.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

### **China to pump up support for rural startups**

[Xinhua, 17.01.2018] -- According to a decision at a State Council executive meeting chaired by Premier Li Keqiang on January 17, 2018, a lot of measures will be rolled out by the Chinese government to support rural startups in order to further promote rural vitalization. As far as Li was concerned, rural startups help promote the rural vitalization strategy, and enable more resource elements, such as talent, technology and capital, to flow to rural areas.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

### **China moves to ensure fertilizer output for spring planting as supplies tighten**

[Reuters, 15.01.2018] -- According to a statement on the website of the National Development & Reform Commission (NDRC) on January 15, 2018, local governments and companies in China should ensure fertilizer supplies and stable prices for upcoming spring planting.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

[Link to original article \(in Chinese\)](#)

### **Hebei urged to rectify land reclamation problems**

[Xinhua, 16.01.2018] -- On January 16, 2018, north China's Hebei Province was criticized by the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) for failing to properly approve and supervise land reclamation and implement national policy. According to an SOA press release, an SOA inspection team found a number of issues concerning land reclamation in Hebei during an inspection in August and September.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 61, January 2018)

## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



### **China to impose annual fishing ban in Yellow River**

[Xinhua, 27.02.2018] -- According to the Ministry of Agriculture, China will ban fishing in the Yellow River between April 1 and June 30 each year starting from 2018. At the same time, Provinces and autonomous regions can extend the fishing ban according to local needs. The fishing ban will cover the main stream, three major lakes, and 13 tributaries linked to the Yellow River. It aims to protect aquatic organism resources and biodiversity as excessive fishing threatens fishery resources.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 62, February 2018)

### **Demonstration zones to harvest new crop of agricultural expertise**

[China Daily, 06.02.2018] -- In order to create a world-leading sector focusing on innovation, talent and industry development, the State Council released a guideline to establish no more than 30 national agricultural high-tech industry demonstration zones by 2025. So far, there are only two agricultural high-tech industry demonstration zones in China; the first one in Yangling and that of the Yellow River Delta, which was approved in 2015 to be built in Dongying, Shandong province.

[Full article](#)

### **China's organic food firms need help to keep growing**

[Global Times, 26.02.2018] – More and more signs demonstrate that worship at the altar of economic figures has come to a halt in China. A typical example of the shift is Chinese people's growing demand for safe, quality food. Therefore, organic produce, which is an increasingly popular choice among Chinese consumers, has emerged in recent years. A delegation led by the Chinese MOA attended the BIOFACH 2018, the world's largest organic trade fair held each year in Nuremberg, Germany.

[Full article](#)

### **China to review anti-dumping duties on EU potato starch**

[Global Times, 05.02.2018] – According to the Ministry of Commerce, the Chinese government will review anti-dumping duties levied on potato starch imported from the EU, which are due to expire on February 6, 2018. Potato starch is widely used in the food industry to make industrial materials, such as emulsifiers, and food products such as instant noodles. The investigation will probably last one year.

[Full article](#)

# SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



## Ministry to promote rural development

[China Daily, 14.03.2018] -- A reform plan to form a new ministry to push forward the development of the agricultural sector and rural areas has been submitted to the National People's Congress for deliberation on March 20, 2018. If approved, the proposed ministry will merge the duties of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and several others agencies, including the duty for supervision of agricultural investment programs under the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), supervision of farmland restoration projects under the Ministry of Land and Resources (MLR), and supervision of agricultural water under the Ministry of Water Resources (MWR). The present Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the State Administration of Grain are to be dismantled under the plan, and a State-level grain and reserves administration will be set up.

[Full article](#)



## **SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER**

**中德农业中心新闻摘要**

**February 2018 (Issue No 10)**

### **NEWS FROM DCZ AND PARTNERS**

#### **Database to go online soon**

The new database of the Science & Technology Cooperation Platform of the Sino-German Agricultural Center (DCZ) is about to go online. Its aim is to concentrate the existing as well as newly to be assembled information on experts, projects and institutions in Sino-German research collaboration in the agricultural sector. The Database is conceived as a searchable content-management platform to enable German and Chinese scientists and other stakeholders to access a network of relevant experts, projects (ongoing and completed) and institutions in agricultural sciences and related fields. This database presently allows for English-language searches for scientists based in Germany only. However, having a modular setup, it can be expanded in case of demand to include Chinese-language contents at a later stage. The database will be accessed via the DCZ website: [www.dcz-china.org](http://www.dcz-china.org)

#### **Phase 1 of the DCZ coming to an end**

Dear Friends, Supporters and Associates of the German-Chinese Agricultural Center (DCZ), The first phase of the DCZ is coming to an end on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The DCZ was inaugurated by the Chinese Minister of Agriculture, Han Changfu and the German Minister of Food and Agriculture, Christian Schmidt on 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2015. During the past three years, the DCZ has established itself as a communication and liaison platform for all kinds of stakeholders in the agricultural field between Germany and China. Though not everything has been easy especially during the initial phase of its set-up, the Center has reached a significant depth and breadth in Sino-German bilateral collaboration in agriculture, thereby itself forming a main pillar of this cooperation. It has received very strong support and feedback from MoA and BMEL and many stakeholders from the sector, for which we are very grateful.

At the same time, the GIZ contract for the implementation of the German part of the DCZ is ending. However, the DCZ component "Forest Policy Facility", led by Dr. Ralph Ridder and Mr. Bao Yuan, will continue to be implemented as GIZ project. The GIZ team, Mr. Conrad von Hoyos, Dr. Marco Roelcke, Mr. Oliver Rogall, Ms. Wei Rong, Ms. Li Yingjuan and Ms. Wang Yin would like to thank you all for your very great support over the past three years, without which the successful operation of the Center would not have been possible. Finally, we would like to say "goodbye", and wish our successors all the best for their forthcoming assignments and tasks.



# SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



## Phase 2 of the DCZ will start on April 1st 2018

Dear Partners, Colleagues and Friends,

Phase 2 of the German-Chinese Agricultural Center will commence on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, with the same objectives and set-up of German and Chinese involvement on equal terms. The German contribution will be provided by new implementing partners, the IAK Agrar Consulting GmbH (IAK) and the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO). Dr. Jürgen Ritter will head the German Team of the DCZ office in Beijing as Managing Director. The new experts' team includes Dr. Tanja Jaksch, Dr. Eva Sternfeld, Prof. Liu Yonggong, Prof. Deng Zhixin and Ms. Tang Bing. In the 2nd phase, the DCZ office in Beijing in cooperation with FECC and CAAS will further develop the project components Agricultural Policy Dialogue, Agri-Food Business Dialogue, Science Dialogue (including Science and Technology Platform) as well as Public Relations and Networking. The new German team hopes for your continued support to the DCZ and is looking forward to cooperating with you.

## Announcements of upcoming events

### BVL International Training for Safer Food 2018

For the first time the BVL – German Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety offers an advanced training course with the topic „Food Safety and Risk Management“. The event will be taking place in Berlin, Germany from July 9-11, 2018, immediately after the BfR Summer Academy 2018 (see below). The event is free of charge, only costs for accommodation and food will arise.

[Flyer](#) [For up to date information](#)

For further questions, please consult ITS-Food: [its-food@bvl.bund.de](mailto:its-food@bvl.bund.de)

### BfR-Summer Academy Risk Assessment and Risk Communication

In 2018 the BfR – German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment will hold its 7<sup>th</sup> International Summer Academy on risk assessment and risk communication in the area of food safety. This will take the form of training courses, which will take place from 25<sup>th</sup> June until 06<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in Berlin. The courses will be conducted by highly qualified and experienced BfR scientists as well as external experts with profound and long-standing experience in risk assessment of chemical or microbial risks.

[Flyer](#) [Applications at](#)

For questions regarding the application procedure: [summeracademy@bfr.bund.de](mailto:summeracademy@bfr.bund.de)

# SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中德农业中心新闻摘要

February 2018 (Issue No 10)



## Imprint:

DCZ Newsletter compiled and edited by Mr. Chengkuan Guo and Dr. Marco Roelcke, German-Chinese Agricultural Center (DCZ), Beijing, P.R. China. For questions, comments, please contact [marco.roelcke@giz.de](mailto:marco.roelcke@giz.de) or [marco.roelcke@dcz-china.org](mailto:marco.roelcke@dcz-china.org)

To subscribe to this DCZ Newsletter, please send an e-mail to [info@dcz-china.org](mailto:info@dcz-china.org) or [marco.roelcke@giz.de](mailto:marco.roelcke@giz.de)

To unsubscribe to this DCZ Newsletter, please send an e-mail to [info@dcz-china.org](mailto:info@dcz-china.org) or [marco.roelcke@giz.de](mailto:marco.roelcke@giz.de)

**V.i.S.d.P.:** Dr. Marco Roelcke, Deutsch-Chinesisches Agrarzentrum (DCZ), Peking, VR China <http://www.dcz-china.org>

We thank the colleagues from the GIZ Sino-German Environmental Partnership Project for their permission to use several news items from their monthly GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy.

We greatly acknowledge the permission granted by the UK-China Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Network (SAIN) to use several news items from the China Agri-food News Digest, compiled by Dr. Yuelai Lü, SAIN Secretariat (UK) [www.sainonline.org/English.html](http://www.sainonline.org/English.html)