

Dr. Peter Michael - A Former APWSS President (1978-79) Passed Away

Dear Members of APWSS and other weed Scientists

Some of you would remember this wonderful man - one of the world's foremost authorities on barnyard grasses. APWSS has lost another of its stalwarts. I am still recovering from this sad news, which I received on Friday the 6th of June. Peter Michael was a mentor to me from the first time we met (1985, Chiang Mai) and since I moved to Australia (32 years ago). He was a personal friend. I used to visit him twice a year. saw him last in Sydney, in 2024.

We would chat endlessly about plants, the early Botanists (Henry Trimen, Joseph Banks, Daniel Solander, Thwaites, etc.), the updated Kew Plant Lists, the "virtuous side" of weeds (He was in my camp!), *Echinochloa* species, and the Verbenaceae (his second favourite Group).

He attended several APWSS conferences in the recent past, and the family has thanked me for essentially "keeping his interests alive".

Here is a little snippet of his last paper that I encouraged him to write:

"My first key (Michael, 1983) was the first attempt to put the world members of the genus in proper focus; the second key (Michael, 1994) included only *Echinochloa* in China; and the third key (Michael, 2001), here revised, include species and varieties in the Asian-Pacific region. It is important for readers to absorb the contents of the notes in these three attempts as background to my new key. In this paper I have provided additional comments on only a few taxa. My recent publications on *Echinochloa* have included an account of the genus in North America north of Mexico (Michael, 2003) and in Australia (Simon et al. 2009).".

Two photographs are attached herewith.

Could the gentleman in the second photo be identified? This is someone who studied Barnyardgrasses.

I would be delighted to receive any comments of your memories of Peter so that I can pass them on to the family.

The funeral service for Peter will be held at Epping Uniting Church at the corner of Chester and Oxford Streets, Epping, at 11.00am on Thursday 12 June, followed by refreshments in th

Kind Regards and Thanks
NIMAL

Dr. Nimal Chandrasena

<Dr. Nimal Chandrasena (APWSS 事務局長) からのメール (20250608) を転載>

