

Sixth Workshop on Baltic Sea Ice Climate

August 25–28, 2008

Lammi Biological Station, Finland

First Announcement

Introduction

The importance of sea ice in the Baltic Sea has been addressed in the Baltic Sea Ice Workshops. The ice has been identified as a key element in the water and energy cycles and ecological state of the Baltic Sea. The variability in sea ice conditions is high and due to the short thermal memory of the Baltic Sea closely connected to the actual weather conditions. The spatial and temporal long-term variability of the ice cover has been discussed in the Baltic Sea Ice Workshops, and in the previous one held in Hamburg in 2005 contributions from other seasonally ice covered seas were included. In the next, sixth workshop this general theme of the seasonal sea ice zone is kept going, which is particularly well suited now during the International Polar Year.

The international Sixth Workshop on Baltic Sea Ice Climate will be held in August 25–28, 2008 in Lammi Biological Station of the University Helsinki, Finland. The meeting will review research results related to the Baltic Sea ice past, present and future climate conditions. The workshop is a continuation of meetings each third year around the Baltic Sea. The First Workshop on Baltic Sea Ice climate was held in Finland August 1993, the second in Estonia 1996, the third in Poland 1999, the fourth in Sweden 2002, and the fifth in Germany 2005.

Scientific Program

The workshop will be divided into sessions with particular emphasis on the topics listed below, identified as future challenging research areas from the discussion in the earlier Baltic Sea Ice workshops. Scientists from the Baltic Sea region and as well from other regional seas, seasonally covered by sea ice, are hereby kindly invited to participate in the Sixth Workshop on Baltic Sea Ice.

Topics

- Climatological ice time series;
- Sea ice dynamics from engineering to geophysical scales;
- Structure and thickness of sea ice;
- Solar radiation and ice melting;
- Climatological sea ice models;
- Sea ice scenarios: challenges in improving models
- Sea ice ecology;
- Ice – ocean and ice – atmosphere interaction;
- Global view over the seasonal sea ice zone; and
- Ice and human life conditions.

Workshop site

The workshop will be held in Lammi Biological Station, which is located at about 130 north from Helsinki (<http://www.helsinki.fi/lammi/english>). Transportation will be arranged to the station from the town Lahti, accessed hourly by train or bus from Helsinki centre or directly from Helsinki airport. The accommodation including overnight, meals and sauna will cost about 35 euros per day. No workshop fee will be charged.

Organisation

The workshop is organised by the Division of Geophysics of the University of Helsinki.

The scientific advisory committee includes:

Prof. Matti Leppäranta, chair	University Helsinki, Finland
Dr. Ants Erm	Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
Dr. Jari Haapala	Finnish Institute of Marine Research, Finland
Prof. Anders Omstedt	Göteborg University, Sweden
Dr. Natalia Schmelzer	BSH, Hamburg, Germany
Prof. Corinna Schrum	University of Bergen, Norway
Prof. Kunio Shirasava	Hokkaido University, Japan
Dr. Marzenna Sztobryn	Institute of Water Management, Poland

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Call for Papers

Contributions, both oral and poster, related to the scientific program as outlined above are welcome. The titles for the presentation are requested to be sent to the workshop secretariat by all participants who wish to give presentations. Deadline: **15 May, 2008.**