

Dr. Yongchao Liang is a full professor at the College of Environmental and Resource Sciences of the Zhejiang University, China. He is a Chang Jiang Scholars Professor officially appointed by the Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China and an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow (Humboldtian) officially awarded by Germany; he has recently been admitted as a Fellow of International Association of Advanced Materials (FIAAM); he has been a director of the Key Laboratory of Environment Remediation and Ecological Health, Ministry of Education, China and a deputy director of the Scientific Committee for College of Environmental and Resource Sciences of the Zhejiang University since 2017. He has been serving as an editor of "Plant and Soil" since 2008 and as an editorial board member of "Journal of Plant Nutrition", "Frontiers in Plant Sciences" and "Soil Systems".

He obtained his B.Sc. degree in Soil Science and Agrochemistry from the Zhejiang Agricultural University, in 1983, and his M.Sc. degree in Soil Science from the Nanjing Agricultural University, Jiangsu, China, in 1987. From 1987 he worked at the Nanjing Agricultural University and obtained his Ph.D. degree in 1999 and his professorship in 2000. He did his post-doc at the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany, as an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow (Humboldtian) (2002-2003). From 2004 he worked at the Institute of Agricultural Resources and Regional Planning of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences as a First-Class Subject Elitist for Plant Nutrition and Fertilizer. He moved back to the Zhejiang University in 2014 as the special-term professor under the Truth-Seeking Scholars Program.

His broad research interests include plant silicon biology and related stress-resistance mechanisms, adaptations of higher plants to stressful environments, soil pollution and remediation and soil-plant-microbe interactions. As a chief investigator and project leader, he has been involved in more than 30 projects including the key grant supported by National Key Research and Development Program. He was awarded 5 provincial- and ministerial-level Science and Technology Progress prizes; he was also authorized 8 Chinese invention patents. He published over 180 peer-reviewed papers in internationally recognized journals with total citation times of more than 11900 according to Web of Science; he also wrote a monograph entitled "Silicon in Agriculture: From Theory to Practice" published by Springer in 2015. His current H index is 61 according to Web of Science. He has been listed among the Elsevier's Most Cited Chinese Scholars in the field of Agriculture and Biological Science since 2014. He has been listed among the Top Plant Science and Agronomy Scientists in both China and the world since 2021. He has been listed throughout his whole career (career-long impact) and was listed among The World Top 2% Scientists in 2019-2023 (China Rank: No. 2, World Rank: No. 10643) in the field of Agronomy & Agriculture. He organized both the International Workshop on Soil and Plant Interactions and Sustainable Agriculture in Arid Environments in Shihezi, Xinjiang, China (2008) and the 5th International Conference on Silicon in Agriculture, in Beijing, China (2011).