Kerala, the southern most state of India is popular amongst the international tourists for its lush green vegetation and tropical forests. Supported by the bi-model monsoon system, Kerala grows rice, coconut, rubber, banana, and a number of important spice crops of international demand, which includes black pepper, cinnamon, ginger and cardamom. Although Kerala is bestowed with more than 300 cm of annual rainfall, the highly erratic pattern of the rainfall distribution in the recent years has resulted in frequent floods and agricultural droughts. Professor Rao will address the climatic aberrations of the humid tropics, its impact on agriculture and the recent climate change adaptation initiatives in the state of Kerala.

**Prof Prasada Rao**

Head, Department of Agricultural Meteorology and  
Associate Director Research, Kerala Agricultural University, India

Agriculture Lecture Theatre G103  
4pm – 5pm, 29 July 2009  
UWA (Hackett Entrance No. 3, Car Park 8)

Professor Prasada Rao received his PhD in Agro-climatology from the Andhra University, Waltair, India. He has been actively involved in teaching, research and extension in the field of Agricultural Meteorology since joining Kerala Agricultural University, Kerala, India in 1980. Currently, Prof Rao is Head of the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Kerala Agricultural University. He is also officiating as the Coordinator of the Centre for Climate Change Research and Associate Director of Research (Meteorology and Disaster Management) of the Kerala Agricultural University. His research area includes the impact of meteorological elements on crops of the humid tropics. He has more than 150 research publications and several books to his credit. “Agricultural Meteorology” and “Climate Change and Agriculture over India” are the latest textbooks/reference books authored by Prof Rao.