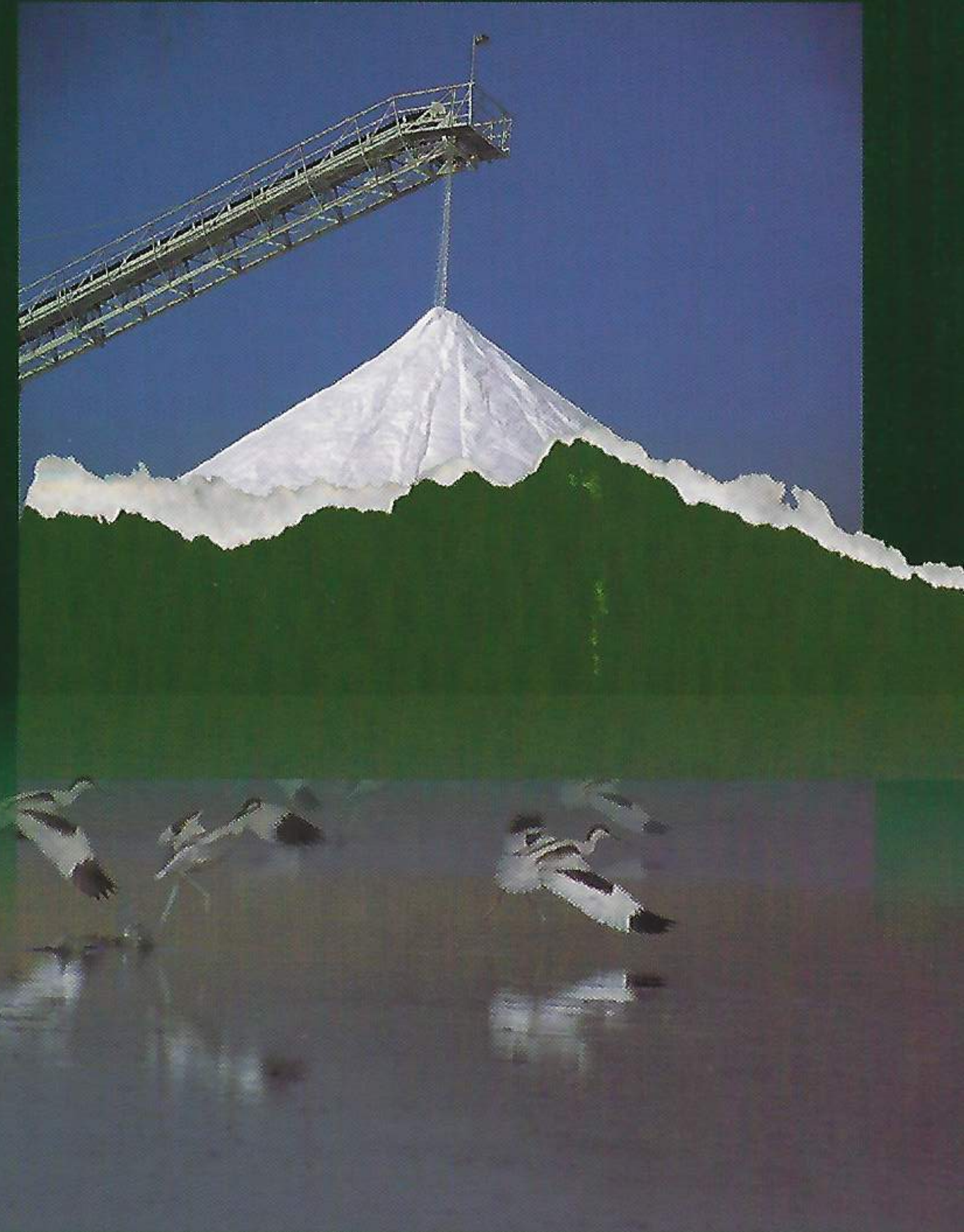


## SALTWORKS: Preserving Saline Coastal Ecosystems

PYTHAGORION, SAMOS • 1 SEPTEMBER 1999



Photos: N. Karavessis

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## SALTWORKS: Preserving Saline Coastal Ecosystems

At a global level, the world's total wetland area is continually decreasing due to drainage, cultivation and habitation. It is unnecessary therefore, to emphasise the importance of safeguarding the remaining wetland areas in the world.

Saltworks produce salt by solar evaporation of seawater since the dawn of human civilisation. Nevertheless, the development of a unique ecosystem in parallel with the salt production process, striding the boundaries between the two, is not always made intelligible and is frequently misunderstood. This astounding ecosystem comprises regular and hypersaline wetlands upon which hundreds of bird species are dependent to feed and/or nest. The uniqueness of saltworks consists in the fact that it presents with straightforward evidence that a happy coexistence between development and environmental protection is indeed possible.

The objective of the symposium is to bring together experts from all over the world, in order to provide an overview of solar saltworks ecosystem and distinguish its similarities and differences with natural saline and hypersaline ecosystems (i.e. lake 'Alikí' in 'Lemnos' island), furthermore to determine the importance and measure the contribution of modern saltworks in preserving wetlands

In this frame a number of expert scientists accepted to give invited lectures:

Prof. J. S. Davis, University of Florida, USA  
Prof. P. Sorgeloos, University of Ghent, Belgium  
Mr. B. Moinier, General Secretary of ESPA, France  
Prof. T. L. Crisman, Director of Center for Wetlands, USA  
Dr. J. G. Walmsley, Consultant for Mediterranean Salinas & Seabird Specialist, France  
Asst. Prof. T. J. Abatzopoulos, Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, Greece  
Asst. Prof. T. Akriotis, University of the Aegean, Greece  
Asst. Prof. T. Petanidou, University of the Aegean, Greece

### Symposium Proceedings

The Symposium Proceedings will consist of the invited lectures.

### The Venue and Transportation

The Symposium will be held in the Hotel "Doryssa Bay" in the town of Pythagorion on the Island of Samos located in the eastern Aegean Sea.

Pythagorion is a picturesque sea resort with a unique character frequented by artists.

Participants are encouraged to give the opportunity to their wives and children to enjoy the beautiful beaches of the Island of Samos.

The air tickets to and from the Island of Samos - there are about four scheduled flights by the Olympic Airways per day - should be booked long in advance i.e. July as the first week of September is a high touristic season.

The boat tickets should also be booked in advance and if a car is taken to the island the return ferry ticket should be ensured. The airport is very near to Pythagorion and one could use bus service, taxi or hire a car.

There are banking facilities in the town of Pythagorion. Traveller's cheques and international credit cards are accepted in banks, most shops and restaurants.



### Accommodation

Several types of accommodation can be arranged at varying prices.

For hotel accommodation:

- Hotel Doryssa Bay, where the Conference will take place can be contacted directly  
tel. : 0030 273 61360 or 61390 or 61060  
fax : 0030 273 61463
- The local tourist office tel.: 0030 273 61389 or 61022

### Organising Committee

Themistokles T. Lekkas Chairman  
Nicholas A. Korovessis Member  
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