

8th Conference on Cereal Biotechnology and Breeding & 19th EWAC - The European Cereals Genetics Co-operative Conference	
10-13 November2025 Budapest, Hungary / Central European University, Nádor Campus	
Preliminary program	

Monday, 10 November	
Room 106	
09:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:10	EWAC Opening ceremony
10:10-10:30	Andreas Börner (Germany): Examples of successful collaboration (2024 - 2025)
10:30-10:50	Krzysztof Kowalczyk (Poland): Current status of the disease resistance genes in common wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) in Poland.
10:50-11:10	Michał Nowak (Poland): Phenomic characterization of drought stress response of the common wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) intervarietal substitution lines
11:10-11:30	Sabina Chebotar (Ukraine): Drought tolerance of winter wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) varieties under laboratory and field conditions in Southern Ukraine
11:30-11:50	Svetlana Misheva (Bulgaria): Twenty years with EWAC: A personal and professional reflection
12:00-13:30	Lunch (Atrium)
13:30-13:50	Matilda Ciuca (Romania): Past and present of pre-breeding program for wheat at N.A.R.D.I. Fundulea – Romania
13:50-14:10	Márta Molnár-Láng (Hungary): Prof. Jozsef Sutka, the cytogeneticist and his legacy
14:10-14:30	Gábor O. Galiba (Hungary): The contribution of the EWAC network to the establishment of the molecular basis of frost resistance research from the beginning until now in Martonvásár (Hungary)
14:30-14:50	Péter Gábor Borbély (Hungary): Supplementing white light with violet-blue or far-red light restored freezing tolerance in Rht12 wheat leaves by modulating hormone and metabolite accumulation
15:00-15:30	Coffee break & Poster session (Atrium)
15:30-15:50	Giovanni Caccialupi (Italy): Dual-phase cold acclimation in barley under field conditions: expression dynamics of ICE-CBF-COR and vernalization pathways in Nure and Tremois
15:50-16:10	Giada Callizaya Terceros (Italy): Genetic control of leaf angle in barley
16:10-16:30	Shiddappa Ramappa Salakinkop (India): Tropical maize under transient waterlogging stress: foliar nutrition alleviates the stress
16:30-16:50	Rajashekhar Mahantaswami Kachapur (India): Genetic variability for yield and amylose content in maize inbred lines (Zea mays L.)
16:50-17:10	EWAC Closing ceremony

Tuesday, 11 November	
Auditorium A	
08:00-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:15	CBB Opening ceremony
09:15-09:30	János Pauk (Hungary): Some historical moments in 52-year history of Cereal Research Communications - CRC
Genetic Resources for Crop Improvement	
09:30-10:00	Invited speaker/ Hakan Özkan (Türkiye): Diversity and breeding potential of wild wheat relatives in Türkiye: A focus on Triticum araraticum
10:00-10:20	Maja Boczkowska (Poland): RNA roadmaps of seed aging during long-term genebank storage
10:40-11:00	István Molnár (Hungary): Chromosome-scale M genome assembly and genotyping-by-sequencing accelerate gene introgression into wheat
11:00-11:20	Coffee break (Atrium)
11:20-11:40	Mahmoud Said (Czech Republic): Chromosome structure, cross-genome homoeology, and DNA markers in Aegilops: insights from single-gene FISH and chromosome flow sorting
11:40-12:00	Fatemeh Gholizadeh (Hungary): Enhancing wheat salt tolerance using chitosan-based nanoparticles: A novel approach to mitigating oxidative stress and improving ionic balance
12:00-12:20	Ali Abbas Al-Taie (Iraq): Development of a new bread wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) cultivar adapted to the rainfed areas of Northern Iraq – Kurdistan Region
12:20-12:40	Aziza Zerrouk (Spain): Effect of terminal heat stress on barley grain weight and the role of VrnH1 × HvcEN alleles in inflorescence development
12:40-13:00	Matteo Bozzoli (Italy): INNOVAR project combines genomics and morphological studies to characterize the breeding value of durum wheat varieties
13:00-13:10	Sponsor Lecture: LemnaTec
13:10-14:30	Lunch (Atrium)
Environmental Adaptation	
14:30-15:00	Invited speaker/Roberto Tuberosa (Italy):
15:00-15:20	Lukas Kronenberg (Germany): Local adaptation and global prediction: GxE modelling of elite wheat across Europe
15:20-15:40	Mohamed Ahres (Hungary): Induction of frost tolerance by different light spectra and low-temperature stimuli in wheat genotypes differing in vernalization alleles
15:40-16:10	Coffee break & Poster Session 1 (Atrium)
16:10-16:30	Péter Gábor Borbély (Hungary): The influence of far-red and blue light supplementations of white light on pre-hardening of winter barley leaves
16:30-16:50	Irene Sbrocca (Italy): Salinity stress response in durum wheat: new insight for the identification of key genes for tolerance
17:30-19:30	Welcome reception (Atrium)

Wednesday, 12 November	
Auditorium A	
08:30-09:00	Registration
Biotic Stress Response/Plant-Microbe Interactions	
09:00-09:30	Invited speaker/David Gilbert (Saudi Arabia): Harnessing wild diversity to identify a novel resistance gene for cereal eyespot disease
09:30-10:00	Invited speaker/Katalin Posta (Hungary): The power of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi in plant-microbe interactions: past, present, future
10:00-10:20	Kamirán Áron Hamow (Hungary): Harnessing cereal volatilomes for mycotoxin risk assessment and fusarium resistance screening
10:20-10:40	Tsvetina S. Nikolova (Bulgaria): Spermine priming modulates antioxidant and stress responses in wheat under Fusarium culmorum seed infection
10:40-11:00	Tünde Pusztahelyi (Hungary): Biocontrol of aflatoxin B1 mycotoxin production under drought stress
11:00-11:30	Coffee break (Atrium)
Phenotyping Technologies– IPPN CEPPG Session	
11:30-12:00	Invited speaker/Kerstin Neumann (Germany): From roots to shoots: multi-scale phenotyping approaches at IPK
12:00-12:20	Aleck Kondwakwenda (Germany): Impacts of combined drought and heat stress on high-throughput phenotyping image-derived and chlorophyll fluorescence traits in chickpeas
12:20-12:40	Salar Shaaf (Germany): From wild to brew: Exploring root architecture in different coffee species under varying nutrient conditions
12:40-12:50	Group photo
12:50-13:30	Lunch (Atrium)
13:50	Bus transfer to Martonvásár
15:00-18:30	Visit to Martonvásár Agricultural Institute
18:30-20:30	Conference Dinner at Martonvásár
20:40	Bus transfer to Conference Venue

Thursday, 13 November	
Auditorium A	
08:30-09:00	Registration
Yield and Quality Improvement	
09:00-09:30	Invited speaker/Friedrich Longin (Germany): Combining high productivity, good baking quality and nutrients along wheat supply chains
09:30-09:50	Naser Poursarebani (Germany): Optimized cereal genotyping arrays based on haplotype structure, marker quality, and candidate genes
09:50-10:10	Katarzyna Szewczyk (Poland): Epigenetic regulation of microspore embryogenic potential in contrasting winter wheat genotypes: A multi-level molecular analysis
10:10-10:30	Pranvera Berisha (Austria): Forward prediction of grain yield across early and advanced generations in winter wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) using NIRS-based models
10:30-11:00	Coffee break & Poster session 2 (Atrium)
11:00-11:20	Mueen Khan (Pakistan): Characterization of genetic diversity of bread wheat genotypes under water-limited conditions for their morpho-physiological, biochemical and quality-related attributes
11:20-11:40	Mamadou Sene (France): Genetic and molecular determinism of sorghum grain quality traits
Bioinformatics and Genome Editing	
11:40-12:10	Invited speaker/ Luc Janss (Denmark): Use of genomic selection in plant breeding: after GBLUP
12:10-12:40	Invited speaker/ Paul Christou (Spain): Genome editing in rice: Major achievements and future prospects
12:40-14:00	Lunch (Atrium)
14:00-14:20	Thomas M. Lange (Germany): optRF: Optimising random forests for reliable genomic selection in wheat breeding
14:20-14:40	Manas Ranjan Prusty (Israel): Cereal genetic manipulation using RUBY: From wheat to its wild relatives
14:40-15:00	Francesca Orlando (Italy): Assessing an in vivo validation method for CRISPR-Cas9 RNA guides in durum wheat
15:00-15:20	Ajay Pandey (India): How does wheat regulate iron uptake and homeostasis amid genomic complexity?
15:20-15:50	Coffee break (Atrium)
Future Challenges and Innovations	
15:50-16:20	Invited Speaker/ Nádor Fodor (Hungary): IT and AI in the digital transformation of agriculture
16:20-16:40	Closing ceremony