



Scientific innovation for a sustainable development of African agriculture

Ghent, August 30-31, 2018

Thursday August 30th, 2018

08.00 – 09.00	Registration/Coffee
09.00 – 10.15	Welcome
09.00 – 09.30	Marc Van Montagu , <i>IPBO/VIB-UGent, Belgium</i> "From knowledge to wisdom"
09.30 – 09.45	Patrick Van Damme , <i>Gents Africa Platform, Belgium</i>
09.45 – 10.00	tba "The importance of developing cooperation for Belgium"
10.00 – 10.45	Keynote 1 Chair: tba
10.00 – 10.45	Denis Kyetere , <i>AATF, Kenya</i> "The role and contribution of plant breeding and plant biotechnology to sustainable agriculture in Africa."
10.45 – 11.15	Coffee break

11.15 – 13.00	Session 1: Relevant crops for Africa Chair: tba
11.15 – 11.45	Yves Van de Peer , <i>Plant Systems Biology, VIB-UGent, Belgium</i> “The African Orphan Crops consortium”
11.45 – 12.15	Hervé Vanderschuren , <i>University of Liège, Belgium</i> “Stories from the lab, stories from the field: advancing tropical crop biotechnology”
12.15 – 13.00	selected abstracts
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 16.00	Session 2: Creating new plant varieties through scientific innovation Chair: tba
14.00 – 14.30	tba
14.30 – 15.00	Leena Tripathi , <i>IITA, Kenya</i> “Genetic improvement of bananas with enhanced resistance to pathogens and pests”
15.00 – 15.30	Jill Cairns , <i>CIMMYT, Zimbabwe</i> “Increasing genetic gain in maize breeding pipelines in eastern and southern Africa”
15.30 – 16.00	Selected abstracts
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee break
16.30 – 18.00	Session 3: Biotic stresses threatening crop yields Chair: tba
16.30 – 17.00	tba
17.00 – 17.30	Johnnie Van den Berg , <i>North-West University, South Africa</i> “Possible management strategies for Fall Armyworm, a threat to African maize farmers”
17.30 – 17.45	Steven Runo , <i>Kenyatta University, Kenya</i> “The effect of Striga infections on the yield of different important crops”
17.30 – 18.00	Selected abstracts

18.00 – 21.00	Reception and walking dinner
18.00 – 19.00	Poster session and reception
19.00 – 21.00	Walking dinner

Friday August 31th, 2018

08.00 – 09.00	Registration/Coffee
09.00 – 11.00	Session 4: Abiotic stresses threatening crop yields Chair: tba
09.00 – 09.30	Dirk Inzé , <i>VIB-UGent Center for Plant Systems Biology, Belgium</i> "Strategies for improving drought tolerance and yield in maize"
09.30 – 10.00	Zerihun Tadele , <i>University of Bern, Switzerland</i> "Lodging and drought resistant Tef"
10.00 – 10.30	Ndiko Ludidi , <i>University of Western Cape, South Africa</i> "Comparative proteomics: a tool for understanding drought tolerance in African grain crops"
10.30 – 11.00	selected abstracts
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	Session 4: Mycotoxins, a threat for both human and animal health Chair: tba
11.30 – 12.00	Sarah De Saeger , <i>UGent, Belgium</i> "Mycotoxin reduction in the food and feed chain: challenges and perspectives in a changing world"
12.00 – 12.30	Sheila Okoth , <i>University of Nairobi, Kenya</i> "Aflatoxin human exposure and <i>Aspergillus flavus</i> variability in 2 diverse environments in Kenya"
12.30 – 13.00	Selected abstracts

13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
---------------	-------

14.00 – 15.00	Session 5: Improved soil fertility to enhance crop yield Chair: tba
---------------	--

14.00 – 14.30	Johan Six , <i>ETH Zurich, Switzerland</i> "Improving soil fertility to enhance crop yields: from science to practice".
14.30 – 15.00	Selected abstracts

15.00 – 16.00	Session 6: Enhancing the nutritional value of important crops for Sub-Saharan Africa Chair: tba
---------------	--

15.00 – 15.30	Dominique Van der Straeten , <i>Ghent University, Belgium</i> "Improving folate stability in biofortified rice"
15.30 – 16.00	Robert Mwanga , <i>CIP, Uganda</i> "Orange-fleshed sweetpotato"

16.00 – 16.30	Coffee break
---------------	--------------

16.30 – 17.15	Keynote 2 Chair: tba
---------------	-------------------------

16.30 – 17.15	Jeremy Ouédraogo , <i>NEPAD-ABNE, Senegal</i> The role of scientific research and innovation in the implementation of a sustainable intensified African agriculture
---------------	---

17.15 – 18.00	Panel discussion Chair: tba
---------------	--------------------------------

Panel members:

Marc Van Montagu

Robert Mwanga

Godelieve Gheysen

Leena Tripathi

Jeremy Ouedraogo (NEPAD-ABNE)

With the support of:



Belgium
partner in development



International Plant
Biotechnology Outreach

