INVITE & INNOVAR FINAL CONFERENCE

PART 2 - InnoVations towards sustainability in plant variety testing

apple, fodder grass, lucerne, maize, oilseed rape, potato, soybean, sunflower, tomato and wheat

10TH DECEMBER 2024 | HERMAN TEIRLINCK BUILDING | BELGIUM AND ONLINE

08:30 - 9:00	**Welcome and coffee**
09:00 - 12:20	**Morning session** *Moderator: Daniel Traon*
9:00 - 9:15	**Opening address** | Francois Laurens, Coordinator INVITE and Lisa Black, Coordinator InnoVar
09:15 - 9:30	**Innovation needs in variety registration** | Spyridon Flevaris, DG SANTE
09:30 - 10:40	**Innovations in genotyping** (Chair: Karl Schmid - UoH and Cécile Collonnier - CPVO)

Introduction – Karl Schmidt (UoH) and Cécile Collonnier (CPVO)

- Trait specific markers: genotyping on tomatoes - René Mathis (GEVES)
- Measures of distinctness and reference collection in heterogeneous crops & reference collection management - Dan Milbourne (TEGASC)
- Epigenetics for bioindicators for improved sustainability - Maria José Aranzana (IRTA)
- Genotyping and mapping of DUS traits in maize - Anurag Daware (UoH)
- Reduction of reference collection and detection of loci and alleles relevant for DUS and VCU using haplotypes in INNOVAR wheat collections - Marco Maccaferri (UNIBO)

Conclusion - Karl Schmidt (UoH) and Cécile Collonnier (CPVO)
Q&A

10:40 - 11:10	**Coffee break**
11:10 - 12:20	**Innovations in phenotyping** (Chair Joseph Peller - WUR and Aurélia Gouleau - GEVES)

Introduction – Jospeh Peller (WUR) and Aurélia Gouleau (GEVES)

- Tomato - Development and validation of a mobile application to determine fruit characteristics – Joseph Peller (WUR)
- Ryegrass - Plant height and biomass estimation using drones - Peter Lootens (ILVO)
- Wheat – Phenotyping efficiency in DUS testing - Preben Klarskov Hansen (Tystofte Foundation)
- Wheat – Review of the phenotyping tools tested and focus on the Literal stick - Jugurta Bouidghaghen (INRAE)
- Sunflower - Handheld infrared camera and drone thermal camera for drought stress detection - Eve-Anne Laurent (AGROSCOPE)

Conclusion – Joseph Peller (WUR) and Aurélia Gouleau (GEVES)
Q&A

12:20 - 13:30	**Lunch break** (Poster session about concrete scientific results and innovations)

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13:30 - 16:30 **Afternoon session:**
Moderator: Nick Vangheluwe

13:30 - 14:40 **Variety testing optimisation for evaluation of performance and resilience**
(Chair: Fred van Eeuwijk – WUR and Fabien Masson - GEVES)

Introduction - Fred van Eeuwijk (WUR) and Fabien Masson (GEVES)

Statistical analysis of VCU trials, precision and trend:
 • Precision and trends in European VCU trial networks from classical mixed model analyses -
Jip Ramakers (WUR)
 • Environmental characterization of European VCU trials - Boris Parent (INRAe)
 • Improving mixed model analysis of VCU trials by including marker and environmental information
   - Waqas Malik (UHOH)
 • Sustainability evaluation in cereals - Paul Cottney (AFBI)
Decision support:
 • Using crop simulation to support cultivar choice: a case study on sunflower crop -
Philippe Debaeke / Pierre Casadebaig (INRAe)
 • Variety recommendations using High Performance, Low Risk categorisations - Sarah Clarke
   (ADAS)

Conclusion - Fred van Eeuwijk (WUR) and Fabien Masson (GEVES)
Q&A

14:40 - 15:10 **Keynote speech about the revision of the seed marketing (PRM) legislation** by Herbert Dorfmann,
European Parliament (EPP)

15:10 - 16:10 **Stakeholder panel discussion about the future of plant variety testing in Europe**
Moderator: Jean-Paul Judson (NowMore)

 • Herbert Dorfmann, Member of the European Parliament (EPP)
 • Philippe Lesigne, Bayer
 • Thor Gunnar Kofoed, Copa-Cogeca
 • Jean Maison, CPVO
 • Monika Messmer, FiBL
 • Päivi Mannikorpi, DG SANTE
 • Francois Laurens, INVITE
 • Lisa Black, InnoVar

16:10 - 16:30 **Presentation of the key messages, perspectives and concluding remarks** by François Laurens,
INVITE