



FEBRUARY 5TH-6TH 2026, 12 A.M.

# BREEDING FOR BIODIVERSITY

University of Hohenheim,  
Schloss, Balkonsaal

## Keynote Speakers

Hubert Kempf  
Monika Messmer  
Vanessa Prigge  
Axel Schechert  
Franziska Wespel

### Organising Institute

State Plant Breeding Institute  
[https://lsa.uni-hohenheim.de/en/start\\_en](https://lsa.uni-hohenheim.de/en/start_en)



Plant Breeding Symposium  
University of Hohenheim



@pbs\_UHOH



DAY 1 - 06. FEBRUARY 2025

TIME	TOPIC
12:00	Registration
13:00	<b>Welcome - Patrick Thorwarth</b>
	<b>Session 1 - Chair: Thomas Miedaner</b>
13:10	<b>Hubert Kempf</b> (Keynote) - 35 years of practical wheat breeding - from pedigree to genomic selection
13:50	<b>Lars Solterbeck</b> - Yield Component Dynamics under Nitrogen Stress: A Lens into Breeding-Relevant Biodiversity in Triticale
14:10	<b>Tigist Tadesse</b> - Enhancing Predictive Accuracy of Agronomy and Quality Traits in Barley ( <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.) Using Spectral Variable Selection
14:30	<b>Marvin Rose</b> - Enhancing Selection Gain of Population Breeding in Winter Rye by Using Genomic Selection
14:50	<b>Friedrich Longin</b> - Breeding is the backbone of diversification – success story establishment of spelt, emmer & einkorn
15:10	Coffee Break & Poster Session
	<b>Session 2 - Chair: Tobias Würschum</b>
15:50	<b>Wanda Haller</b> - Evaluation of maize testcross hybrid performance under low and high phosphorus fertilization.
16:10	<b>Anurag Daware</b> - Leveraging genomic prediction and GWAS to modernize distinctness, uniformity, and stability (DUS) testing in maize
16:30	<b>Desmond Darko Asiedu</b> - Genetic and molecular analyses of European maize landrace for resistance to stalk rot
16:50	<b>Emilia Koch</b> - Covariates, measured variables around our trial, and how we can implement them into our statistical models
17:10	<b>Vanessa Prigge</b> (Keynote) - TBD
17:50	<b>Closing Words Day 1 - Tobias Würschum</b>
18:00	End Day 1
19:00	Symposium Dinner



## DAY 2 - 06. FEBRUARY 2026

TIME	TOPIC
08:30	<b>Welcome - Karl Schmid</b>
	<b>Session 1 Chair: Karl Schmid</b>
08:35	<b>Franziska Wespel</b> (Keynote) - TBD
09:15	<b>Anne-Katrin Gorn</b> - Quality over quantity? The optimized allocation of quality samples of perennial ryegrass in Bavarian cultivar trials
09:35	<b>Clemens Hacke</b> - Breeding for drought tolerance in German soybean varieties
09:55	<b>Axel Schechert</b> (Keynote) - Breeding of Dandelion for Natural Rubber Production
10:35	Coffee Break & Poster Session
	<b>Session 2 Chair: Tobias Schrag</b>
11:15	<b>Volker Hahn</b> - From Field to Plate: Enhancing Biodiversity Through Buckwheat Breeding
11:35	<b>Hans Peter Maurer</b> - Breaking Out of Its Niche: Safflower Cultivation
11:55	<b>Monika Messmer</b> (Keynote) - TBD
12:35	<b>Closing Words Day 2 - Patrick Thorwarth</b>
12:40	Fingerfood & Get Together

The symposium will take place in the beautiful halls of the baroque castle of Hohenheim, in the Balkonsaal on the first floor.

Address: Schloss Hohenheim 170599 Stuttgart

