



UNIVERSITY OF
CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY
PRAGUE



University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague and Biotrin, z.s.

invite you to the

International Conference on

New Breeding Techniques (NBT) - Hope for Agriculture and Food Chain

13th September 2018

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

University of Chemistry and Technology Prague, Technická 5, Prague 6

**Registration is required due to limited room capacity, is FREE of charge
and open until 31th August 2018**



info@biotrin.cz

Conference will be translated into Czech.

With the support of



Agenda

9:30 – 10:00

Registration

10:00 – 10:15

prof. Ing. Kateřina Demnerová, CSc.

Opening remarks

10:15 – 10:45

prof. RNDr. Zdeněk Opatrný, CSc.

Insight into NEW breeding techniques

10:45 – 11:15

Dr. Petra Jorasch

The importance of Plant Breeding Innovation for the EU Seed Sector

11:15 – 11:45

Dr. Ervin Balázs

Genetic improvement of microbes, plants and animals in the beginning of the twenty first century, a key to the agricultural innovation

11:45 – 12:30

Coffee break

12:30 – 13:00

Dr. Shaun Curtin

Developing healthier food products through genome editing

13:00 – 13:30

Mgr. Tomáš Moravec, Ph.D.

Use of NBT in current breeding programmes in the Czech Republic

13:30 – 14:00

Final discussion

Speakers biographies



**prof. RNDr. Zdeněk
Opatrný, CSc.**

Prof. RNDr. Zdeněk Opatrný, CSc. specializes in plant biology and biotechnology. He became one of the first European experts in plant tissue culture research and application.

After both fundamental and applied research at the Czechoslovak Academy of Science (1963-1988), he was appointed as the head of Biotechnology Section of the central Crop Research Institute Prague, focused on the use of biotechnologies in plant breeding. He has worked at the Faculty of Science at the Charles University in Prague for the last twenty years.

Besides the research and education, he is actively engaged in various forms of science popularization, incl. membership in BIOTRIN, z.s. Since 1995, he has been acting as the Czech National Correspondent in COST/ESF research programme, including evaluation panels on Agriculture, Food Science and Biotechnology.



Dr. Petra Jorasch

Dr. Petra Jorasch holds a PhD in plant molecular biology from the University of Hamburg in 1999. In 2000 she became IP Expert at GFPI Service Ltd., a company which supports the German breeding industry in questions of IP and technology transfer. Since 2014 she was Vice Secretary General of the German Plant Breeders' Association (BDP).

During her career she developed solid experience in biotech patent law and plant variety as well as in regulatory issues concerning modern plant breeding methods.

Dr. Jorasch joined ESA in February 2017 as the spokesperson of the EU plant breeding sector on modern plant breeding methods and innovative technologies.



Dr. Ervin Balázs

Dr. Ervin Balázs, general director at the Centre for Agricultural Research Martonvásár Hungary, a former founding general director of the Agricultural Biotechnology Center Gödöllő, lead a unit on molecular virology and genetic engineering of crops, which also includes a service facility for plant breeders to use all current molecular tools.

He spent several years abroad, working at Cornell University, Plant Pathology Department, Ithaca N.Y.USA, than IBMC Strasbourg, France, and at the Friedrich Miescher Institute, Basel, Switzerland. He has been involved in exploring Cauliflower Mosaic Virus genome, including its promoters, and later he has developed a plant transformation vector based on 19S promoter of the virus.

During the last two decades he has produced several transgenic virus resistant plants, such as tobacco, potato and pepper. He is an advocate of the introduction of the new technology into the daily agricultural practice and supports internationally harmonized regulation of the biotechnology.

Elected to be member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and has been awarded with the Blaise Pascal International Research Chair (2001) and with the International Institute of Biotechnology (Royal Society of Arts, London) lecture award in 2005. He served as Panel chair of the Hungarian Higher Education Accreditation Committee between 2012-2016. He is the president of the Hungarian Unesco Committee for Natural Sciences.



Dr. Shaun Curtin

Dr. Shaun Curtin received his PhD from CSIRO Plant Industry (Charles Sturt University) studying small RNAs in Arabidopsis.

He carried out post-doctoral work at the University of Minnesota and the USDA Cereal Disease Laboratory where he made contributions to genome engineering of legumes and cereal crops. During this time he used reagents to generate soybean and Medicago truncatula mutants to study small RNA biogenesis and symbiotic nitrogen fixation pathways in these plants.

He has recently joined Calyxt, Inc. a consumer-centric, food- and agriculture-focused company that works on delivering healthier food ingredients, such as healthier oils and high fiber wheat, for consumers and crop traits that benefit the environment and reduce pesticide applications, such as disease tolerance, for farmers.



**Mgr. Tomáš Moravec,
Ph.D.**

Mgr. Tomáš Moravec, Ph.D. has degree in Biochemistry from Charles University and PhD in plant pathology from Czech Agricultural University. His major topic of interest is the use of plant viruses for the production of pharmaceutical proteins in plant.

During his post-doctoral stay in St. Louis, USA under the supervision of Dr. Roger Beachy he realised the advantages offered by legume seeds namely soybeans for vaccine production. With various level of success he tried to pursue both research topics after his return to the Institute of Experimental Botany, Prague.

His last research project aimed to develop a seed based platform for the expression of human glycoproteins with authentic human glycoprofile. Currently he leads a research group at IEB, Prague.