



20. - 24. June 2022

International Conference on Sexual Plant Reproduction



WELCOME

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We are delighted to welcome you to the **26th International Conference on Sexual Plant Reproduction (ICSPR)** that will take place from June 20-24, 2022, at Hotel Pyramida in Prague (Czech Republic).

During the past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, many workshops and conferences were cancelled or took place as virtual meetings. We have learned how to organize such events technically by using Zoom, Webex, Teams or other platforms, but despite some advantages, we also experienced a large number of disadvantages. We are especially missing the important individual scientific discussions, inspirations and exchange of ideas that take place after talks, during coffee breaks, lunch/dinner, poster sessions, and during meeting excursions. We also need an environment that fosters possibilities to initiate collaborations, make new friends, and to maintain long-standing friendships. We therefore decided to organize the 26th ICSPR exclusively in presence.

Unfortunately, this excludes participation of scientist from countries who followed the wrong COVID strategies. We are also aware that there is a war of aggression in Europe, thus it is difficult for some colleagues to attend, and some scientists are uncomfortable to travel by plane. Thus, despite these and other problems in difficult times, we are very happy to welcome you and more than 330 further scientists in the beautiful and historic city of Prague, the capital city of the Czech Republic, which is also called the “Golden City” or the “City of the Hundred Towers”.

You will find a very exciting program with topics ranging from flowering, gametogenesis, pollen tube growth and fertilization mechanisms to seed/fruit development that includes also ecological and epigenetic aspects of plant reproduction as well as the application of the knowledge generated. We hope you will enjoy the talks, poster session, discussions, and networking during the 26th ICSPR.

Thank you very much for your participation.

*David Honys and Thomas Dresselhaus
(on behalf of the whole organizing team)*

26th International Conference on Sexual Plant Reproduction

20. – 24. June 2022

Pyramida Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic

TABLE OF CONTENT

WELCOME	3
ORGANIZING TEAM	1
CONTACT AND INFORMATION	1
VENUE	2
SAFETY RULES	4
CODE OF CONDUCT	5
SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS	6
PROGRAMME	8
MONDAY JUNE 20	8
TUESDAY JUNE 21	10
WEDNESDAY JUNE 22	14
THURSDAY JUNE 23	17
FRIDAY JUNE 24	20
KEYNOTE TALKS	21
TALKS SELECTED FROM ABSTRACTS	31
POSTERS	85
LIST OF PARTICIPANT	294

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PROGRAMME

Monday June 20

10:00-13:00 *Registration*

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-14:30 Conference Opening

14:30-18:00 Session 1: Flowering and Flower Organ Development

Chair: Lucia Colombo, *Universita degli Studi di Milano, Italy*

14:30-15:00 Keynote Talk 1

Development and evolution of petal nanoscale ridges that scatter light and influence animal behaviour

Beverley J. Glover, *University of Cambridge, UK*

15:00-15:20 Abstract Talk 1.1

Control of flowering time and yield by winter bud dormancy in oilseed rape

Steven Penfield, *John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK*

15:20-15:40 Abstract Talk 1.2

Florigenesis and juvenile phase transition in *Cannabis sativa* plants

Ben Spitzer-Rimon, *ARO - Volcani Institute, Rishon LeZion, Israel*

15:40-16:00 Abstract Talk 1.3

Unraveling flowering development in the smallest angiosperm

Cristian Mateo-Elizalde, *Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York, NY, USA*

16:00-16:40 *Coffee Break*

PROGRAMME

- 16:40-17:00 Abstract Talk 1.4
The beta-subunit of nascent polypeptide associated complex plays a role in flowers and siliques development of *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Jan Fila, *Institute of Experimental Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic*
- 17:00-17:20 Abstract Talk 1.5
SCI1 is expressed at the *Nicotiana tabacum* floral meristem and is a direct target of key flower development transcription factors
Maria Helena S. Goldman, *University of Sao Paulo, Brazil*
- 17:20-17:40 Abstract Talk 1.6
ARGONAUTE-mediated RNA silencing in anther development
Reina Komiya, *Science and Technology Graduate University, Okinawa, Japan*
- 17:40-18:00 Abstract Talk 1.7
Sexual dimorphism, male biasness and ambophily in *Zanthoxylum armatum*; traits for reproductive efficiency
Renu Sharma, *University of Jammu, India*
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Welcome Drink
(18:00-20:00)
Hotel Pyramida

Tuesday June 21

9:00-12:50 **Session 2: Gametogenesis and Meiosis**
Chair: Ueli Grossniklaus, *University of Zurich, Switzerland*

9:00-9:30 **Keynote Talk 2**
What limits meiotic crossovers?
Raphael Mercier, *Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research, Cologne, Germany*

9:30-9:50 Abstract Talk 2.1
Structural maintenance of chromosomes SMC5/6 complex is necessary for meiotic chromosome reduction in *Arabidopsis*
Aleš Pečinka, *Institute of Experimental Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Olomouc, Czech Republic*

9:50-10:10 Abstract Talk 2.2
H3K9 demethylases are required for male meiosis in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Hua Jiang, *Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research, Gatersleben, Germany*

10:10-10:30 Abstract Talk 2.3
Dissection of meiotic recombination and genomic architecture of holocentric plants with repeat-based centromeres
Meng Zhang, *Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research, Cologne, Germany*

10:30-11:10 *Coffee Break*

11:10-11:30 Abstract Talk 2.4
ZIP4: stabilization of wheat as a polyploid and its impact on breeding
Azahara C. Martin, *John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK*

PROGRAMME

11:30-11:50 Abstract Talk 2.5
Members of the ELMOD protein family specify formation of distinct aperture domains on the *Arabidopsis* pollen surface
Anna Dobritsa, *Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA*

11:50-12:10 Abstract Talk 2.6
Multi-omics approach to describe gene expression dynamics in developing pollen of *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Božena Klodová, *Institute of Experimental Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic*

12:10-12:30 Abstract Talk 2.7
HvTDF1 gene reveals a conserved role in controlling anther tapetum development in dicot and monocot
Zoe Wilson, *University of Nottingham, UK*

12:30-12:50 Abstract Talk 2.8
The VACUOLAR SORTING PROTEIN 13 (VPS13) affects female germline establishment and progression by acting on small RNA pathway
Mara Cucinotta, *Universita degli Studi di Milano, Italy*

12:50-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-17:50 Session 3: Pollen-Pistil Interactions and Pollen Tube Growth
Chair: Ravi Palanivelu, *University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA*

14:00-14:30 Keynote Talk 3
Death is life – programmed cell death in compatible and incompatible pollen pistil interactions
Moritz Nowack, *VIB and Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

PROGRAMME

- 14:30-14:50 Abstract Talk 3.1
Two subgroups of *Arabidopsis* receptor-like kinases regulate intra- and inter-species pollen-pistil interactions
Daphne R. Goring, *University of Toronto, Canada*
- 14:50-15:10 Abstract Talk 3.2
Engineered *Arabidopsis* pollen establishes a role of ATP depletion and cytosolic acidification in *Papaver* self-incompatibility
Ludi Wang, *Aberystwyth University, UK*
- 15:10-15:30 Abstract Talk 3.3
Flavonols take the heat out of heat stress to protect pollen from elevated ROS
Joëlle K. Mühlemann, *imate Resilient Crop Production lab, KU Leuven, Department of Biosystems, Division of Crop Biotechnics, Belgium*
- 15:30-16:10 *Coffee Break*
- 16:10-16:30 Abstract Talk 3.4
Transcriptome reprogramming in the *Arabidopsis* male germline during the progamic phase
Jörg D. Becker, *Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciencia, Oeiras, Portugal*
- 16:30-16:50 Abstract Talk 3.5
Integration of ion dynamics into a membrane potential gradient in pollen tubes
Jose A Feijó, *University of Maryland, College Park, MA, USA*
- 16:50-17:10 Abstract Talk 3.6
Molecular basis of pollen germination and tube growth in rice
Ki-Hong Jung, *Kyung Hee University, Yongin, Republic of Korea*

PROGRAMME

17:10-17:30 Abstract Talk 3.7
Keeping growth in check – regulation of polar signaling in pollen of *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Philipp Denninger, *Technical University of Munich, Germany*

17:30-17:50 Abstract Talk 3.8
Enhanced pollen tube integrity was selected during breeding of tomato varieties that set fruit at elevated temperature
Sorel Ouonkap Yimga, *Brown University, Providence, RI, USA*

17:50-20:00 Poster Session 1

Wednesday June 22

9:00-12:10 **Session 4: Fertilization Mechanisms**
Chair: Stefanie Sprunck, *University of Regensburg, Regensburg, Germany*

9:00-9:30 **Keynote Talk 4**
Novel pathways controlling sperm nuclear migration during flowering plant fertilization
Tomokazu Kawashima, *University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, USA*

9:30-9:50 Abstract Talk 4.1
RNA binding proteins at the nexus of pollen tube guidance
Said Hafidh, *Institute of Experimental Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic*

9:50-10:10 Abstract Talk 4.2
The JAGGER GPI-anchor defines the protein subcellular localization. Does it mediate JAGGER function?
Sílvia Coimbra, *Universidade do Porto, Portugal*

10:10-10:30 Abstract Talk 4.3
Redox interplay of ROS-level dynamics and glutathione metabolism upon gamete fusion and subsequent zygotic development in rice
Kasidit Rattanawong, *Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan*

10:30-11:10 *Coffee Break*

11:10-11:30 Abstract Talk 4.4
“Cells-in-a-cell”: Which roles for the endo-plasma membrane that wraps the sperm cells?
Thomas Widiez, *Université de Lyon, France*

PROGRAMME

11:30-11:50 Abstract Talk 4.5
Fertilization initiates seed nutrition by degradation of callose deposition at the phloem end
Ryushiro Kasahara, *Nagoya University, Japan*

11:50-12:10 Abstract Talk 4.6
ECS1 and ECS2 suppress the formation of haploid plants by promoting double fertilization
Thomas Nakel, *University of Bremen, Germany*

12:10-13:00 *Lunch*

Excursion
Prague City Centre
(13:00-15:00)

15:00-18:00 Session 5: Apomixis, Evolution and Ecology
Chair: Viktor Žárský, *Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic*

15:00-15:30 Keynote Talk 5
From single cells to flowers: Gene-regulatory mechanisms controlling organ specification in *Arabidopsis* flowers
Kerstin Kaufmann, *Humboldt-University, Berlin, Germany*

15:30-15:50 Abstract Talk 5.1
Transcriptome analysis of sexual and apomictic *Boechera* leads to identification of the RNA helicase GAM as crucial regulator for gametogenesis
Anja Schmidt, *Heidelberg University, Germany*

15:50-16:10 Abstract Talk 5.2
Development and evolution in male gametogenesis
David Twell, *University of Leicester, UK*

PROGRAMME

16:10-16:30 Abstract Talk 5.3
Genomic and ecological differentiation in a South American grass
Diego Hojsgaard, *Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research, Gatersleben, Germany*

16:30-17:00 *Coffee Break*

17:00-17:20 Abstract Talk 5.4
Pollen number is regulated by REDUCED POLLEN NUMBER1 encoding ribosome assembly factor and is characterized by an enriched selection signal among traits related to selfing syndrome in *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Kentaro K. Shimizu, *University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland*

17:20-17:40 Abstract Talk 5.5
Pre-zygotic mate selection in *Nicotiana attenuata*
Patrycja Baraniecka, *Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Jena, Germany*

17:40-18:00 Abstract Talk 5.6
Phylogenetic and expression analysis of CENH3 and APOLLO genes in sexual and apomictic *Boechera* species
Vladimir Brukhin, *Komarov Botanical Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia*

18:00-20:00 Poster Session 2

Thursday June 23

9:00-12:50

Session 6: Embryogenesis, Seed and Fruit Development

Chair: David Honys, *Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic*

9:00-9:30

Keynote Talk 6

Apoplastic modifications in plant reproductive development: The (w)hole story

Gwyneth Ingram, *Université de Lyon, France*

9:30-9:50

Abstract Talk 6.1

Embryonic elimination and post-meiotic drive of chromosomes – different sites of the same coin?

Andreas Houben, *Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research, Gatersleben, Germany*

9:50-10:10

Abstract Talk 6.2

Setting up the stage for analyzing parental-dosage-dependent effects on barley grain development

Anna Nowicka, *Institute of Experimental Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Olomouc, Czech Republic*

10:10-10:30

Abstract Talk 6.3

High temperatures impact on early seed development and embryo morphogenesis in *Arabidopsis thaliana*

Juan Francisco Sánchez López, *CEITEC Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic*

10:30-11:10

Coffee Break

11:10-11:30

Abstract Talk 6.4

Do *VIM* genes have a role in embryo and endosperm development?

Karina Orozco Natividad, *Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados (Cinvestav), Irapuato, México*

PROGRAMME

11:30-11:50 Abstract Talk 6.5
Distinct parental signals polarize the *Arabidopsis* zygote to initiate the embryonic patterning process
Martin Bayer, *Max Planck Institute for Biology, Tübingen, Germany*

11:50-12:10 Abstract Talk 6.6
Time to sleep or to germinate? A case of legumes seed dormancy
Petr Smýkal, *Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic*

12:10-12:30 Abstract Talk 6.7
Seed coat-derived brassinosteroids non-cell autonomously regulate endosperm development
Rita B. Lima, *University of Potsdam, Germany*

12:30-12:50 Abstract Talk 6.8
Small RNA functions in plant embryos
Michael Nodine, *Wageningen University, The Netherlands*

12:50-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-17:10 Session 7: Epigenetic Mechanisms
Chair: Thomas Dresselhaus, *University of Regensburg, Regensburg, Germany*

14:00-14:30 Keynote Talk 7
Regulation and function of endosperm cellularization
Claudia Köhler, *Max Planck Institute of Molecular Plant Physiology, Potsdam-Golm, Germany*

14:30-14:50 Abstract Talk 7.1
Active DNA demethylation in pollen counteracts heterochromatic silencing
Daniel Bouyer, *École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France*

PROGRAMME

14:50-15:10 Abstract Talk 7.2
Temperature stress impairs centromere structure and segregation of meiotic chromosomes in *Arabidopsis*
Karel Řiha, *CEITEC Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic*

15:10-15:30 Abstract Talk 7.3
RNA directed DNA methylation impacts seed development in the obligate outcrosser *Capsella grandiflora*
Mark A Beilstein, *University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA*

15:30-16:10 *Coffee Break*

16:10-16:30 Abstract Talk 7.4
DNA methylation and genetic imprinting in water lily (*Nymphaea*) seeds: implications for endosperm and seed evolution
Rebecca A. Povilus, *Whitehead Institute, Cambridge MA, USA*

16:30-16:50 Abstract Talk 7.5
Homology-based regulation of pollen-side dominance hierarchy between small RNAs and their targets in *Brassicaceae*.
Risa Kobayashi, *Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Japan*

16:50-17:10 Abstract Talk 7.6
Exploring the cellular basis of organ curvature using 3D digital ovules
Kay Schneitz, *Technical University of Munich, Freising, Germany*

17:10-18:00 General Assembly

Conference Dinner

(19:00-21:00)

City of Prague Mayor's Residency

Mariánské náměstí 1/98, Praha 1 – Staré Město

Friday June 24

9:00-9:40 **Special Keynote Talk**
Membrane receptor kinase signaling proteins in plant development
Michael Hothorn, *University of Geneva, Switzerland*

9:40-11:50 **Session 8: Applications in Plant Breeding**
Chair: Karina van der Linde, *University of Regensburg, Germany*

9:40-10:10 **Keynote Talk 8**
Exploitation of uniparental genome elimination for accelerated plant breeding and genetics
Ravi Maruthachalam, *Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Vithura, Kerala, India*

10:10-10:50 *Coffee Break*

10:50-11:10 Abstract Talk 8.1
Pollen and ovule quality analysis for plant reproduction
Iris Heidmann, *Acepo, Enkhuizen, The Netherlands*

11:10-11:30 Abstract Talk 8.2
Genome-wide association analysis of wild and domesticated barley identifies hitherto unknown domestication loci as well as new breeding targets for important yield traits
Jesper Harholt, *Carlsberg Research Laboratory, Copenhagen, Denmark*

11:30-11:50 Abstract Talk 8.3
Generation of haploidy inducers in barley by targeted mutagenesis
Jochen Kumlehn, *Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research, Gatersleben, Germany*

11:50-12:10 **Meeting Closure**

12:10-13:10 *Lunch*

P55 An evolutionary approach to optimising synthetic apomixis in cereal crops

Nada Šurbanovski¹, Juan Pablo Selva^{2,3}, Emma Wallington¹, José Carballo³, Matthew Milner¹, Lawrence Percival-Alwyn¹, Diego Zappacosta^{3,4}, Andrés Bellido³, Viviana Echenique^{2,4}, Mario Caccamo¹

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Seed-mediated apomixis evolved as an alternative to the reproductive pathway whereby unreduced cells within the ovule acquire a reproductive fate. A recent breakthrough study showed that male-derived expression of the transcription factor *BBM1* in rice, which triggers the embryonic programme upon fertilisation, can be used to deliver parthenogenesis when ectopically expressed in the oocyte. Feasibility of apomixis in rice was shown by combining the *BBM1* expression in the egg with a mitosis/meiosis substitution construction known as MiMe. However, as MiMe disables both male and female meiosis, it affects both gametophytes, creating polyploids and this ‘disarming meiosis’ approach also leads to inevitable change to the expected 2:3 zygote:endosperm genome ratio. Thus, whilst we aim to introduce the proof-of-concept rice system into barley, we also seek to contend with its shortcomings: high frequencies of polyploids and sexual offspring. Our goal is to address these weaknesses through targeted dissection of the natural apomictic system in *Eragrostis curvula*. Apomixis in *E. curvula* starts with the formation of the embryo sac from the MMC itself, avoiding meiosis and following directly into two rounds of mitosis, generating ultimately two synergid cells (2n), the egg cell (2n) and the polar nucleus (2n). Only the polar nucleus is fertilised creating the endosperm (3n) which results in the 2:3 embryo-endosperm ratio. Our study aims to gain sufficient molecular understanding of the *E. curvula* system through forward-genetics approaches including single-cell transcriptomics, to replace the meiosis-disabling method with one that circumvents female meiosis in the MMC thereby avoiding problems associated with unreduced male gametes. Reverse genetics is being used to replicate the rice approach and validate *Eragrostis* candidates in barley, whilst further optimisation of the systems is to be achieved through inducing male sterility and using haploid-inducer lines as the male parent.

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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday				
9:00									
9:10									
9:20									
9:30									
9:40									
9:50									
10:00									
10:10	Registration and Poster Mounting	Session 2: Gametogenesis and Meiosis Chair: Ueli Grossniklaus	Session 4: Fertilization Mechanisms Chair: Stefanie Sprunck	Session 6: Embryogenesis, Seed and Fruit Development Chair: David Honys	Special Keynote Talk				
10:20						Keynote Talk 2	Keynote Talk 4	Keynote Talk 6	
10:30						Abstract talk 2.1	Abstract talk 4.1	Abstract talk 6.1	
10:40						Abstract talk 2.2	Abstract talk 4.2	Abstract talk 6.2	
10:50						Abstract talk 2.3	Abstract talk 4.3	Abstract talk 6.3	
11:00						Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
11:10						Abstract talk 2.4	Abstract talk 4.4	Abstract talk 6.4	
11:20						Abstract talk 2.5	Abstract talk 4.5	Abstract talk 6.5	
11:30						Abstract talk 2.6	Abstract talk 4.6	Abstract talk 6.6	
11:40						Abstract talk 2.7	Lunch	Abstract talk 6.7	
11:50	Abstract talk 2.8	Abstract talk 6.8							
12:00									
12:10									
12:20									
12:30									
12:40									
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13:00	Lunch	Lunch	Excursion - Prague City Centre	Lunch	Lunch				
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14:00	Conference Opening	Session 3: Pollen-Pistil Interactions and Pollen Tube Growth Chair: Ravi Palanivelu	Session 5: Apomixis, Evolution and Ecology Chair: Viktor Zársky	Session 7: Epigenetic Mechanisms Chair: Thomas Dresselhaus	Keynote Talk 7				
14:10						Keynote Talk 1	Keynote Talk 3	Keynote Talk 5	
14:20		Abstract talk 3.1	Abstract talk 5.1	Abstract talk 7.1					
14:30	Abstract talk 1.1	Abstract talk 3.2	Abstract talk 5.2	Abstract talk 7.2					
14:40	Abstract talk 1.2	Abstract talk 3.3	Abstract talk 5.3	Abstract talk 7.3					
14:50	Abstract talk 1.3	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break					
15:00	Coffee Break	Abstract talk 3.4	Abstract talk 5.4	Abstract talk 7.4					
15:10		Abstract talk 3.5	Abstract talk 5.5	Abstract talk 7.5					
15:20		Abstract talk 3.6	Abstract talk 5.6	Abstract talk 7.6					
15:30		Abstract talk 3.7	General Assembly	General Assembly					
15:40		Abstract talk 3.8							
15:50									
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18:00	Welcome Drink	Poster Session 1	Poster Session 2	Conference Dinner					
18:10									
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