

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

9th International Barley Genetics Symposium 20–26 June, 2004, Brno, Czech Republic

International Organizing Committee for organization of IBGS decided to organize the symposium for the first time since 1963 in Middle or Eastern Europe. Very good reputation of Czech barley research and science, malt and beer was the crucial argument that the Czech Republic was charged by the organization of 9th IBGS.

The course of the symposium and participants. The scientific sessions of the symposium were held in the representative facilities of Brno Trade Fairs – Rotunda Hall and adjacent rooms on 20th–26th June, 2004. 340 scientists, researchers from 42 countries of all continents, participated in the symposium. In the course of the symposium 57 lectures in 11 sessions were presented. The plenary meetings were accompanied by 7 workshops and 250 posters.

In the introductory session it was stated that the developments in barley genetics and breeding have accelerated in the last years, starting with single gene analysis, proceeding to the reconciliation of quantitative phenotypes and DNA-level variation, and culminating by analysis of genome structure and function. The introductory session was followed by Session 1 – Germplasm and genetic resources; Session 2 – Breeding methodologies I – Mapping; Session 3 – Breeding methodologies II – Genomics; Session 4 – Biochemistry, cytogenetics, transgenic barley; Session 5 – malting and brewing – technological parameters; Session 6 – Barley protein, feed and food; Session 7 – Disease and pest resistance I – generally, leaf diseases; Session 8 – Disease and pest resistance II – Ear diseases, Fusarium head blight, viroses; Session 10 – Breeding success stories.

The abstracts of all oral and poster presentations were published in Special Issue of this journal as the “Book of Abstracts” and the full text on a CD ROM. Both the book of abstracts and CD ROM will be provided by request by the organizer.

The participants in the symposium positively appreciated the possibility to carry out field observations of representative barley collections from all continents in the experimental field of Agricultural Research Institute Kromeriz, Ltd.

Challenges for the future. Comparative linkage mapping suggested unexpectedly high conservation of synteny across the tribe Triticeae and the grass family, leading to suggestions that, for the purposes of gene discovery and isolation, cereal genomes can be treated as a single collinear entity. In assuming synteny for genes in the high-recombination regions, particularly for distantly related species within the tribe Triticeae and the grass family, there arise further perspectives in gene combination. The present situation of the increasing occurrence of diseases particularly Fusarium head blight, biotic and abiotic stress requires close collaboration of leading centres of research, science, breeders and particularly gene banks. As for malting, feed and food quality there are still possibilities for further improvement.

If you are interested in any details of the 9th IBGS, do not hesitate to contact:
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