

# PROGRAM

# Plant Breeders Meeting 2026

## 23./24. November 2026
## RWA Raiffeisen Ware Austria
**Raiffeisenstraße 1, 2100 Korneuburg, Austria**

**Day 1** **Plant Breeding and Patents**

**Day 2** **Genetic Engineering for the Future**

## Valuable information

### Conference venue

Korneuburg can be easily reached from Vienna by public transport or car. Regional trains depart from Wien Praterstern (interchange to Vienna metro lines U1 and U2), Wien Handelskai (interchange to train line S45) and Wien Floridsdorf (interchange to Vienna metro line U6). See https://www.oebb.at/en/ for timetables, routes and tickets or the ÖBB App on your mobile. Alternatively, you may use https://anachb.vor.at/ (or the respective App). From the railway station the conference venue can be reached by 10 min walk. By car, the conference venue can be reached via the motorway A22 (exit Korneuburg-Ost).

### Accomodations

Affordable rooms near the conference venue are available at the Oekotel Korneuburg Wien Nord I (https://www.oekotel.com/?page_id=72) or the Hotel zur Sonne (http://www.hotelzursonne.at/) in the city centre. Participants coming by car may alternatively choose accomodations in the surroundings (check locations and availabilities via usual booking platforms). Plenty of accomodations with excellent public transport connection to the conference venue may be booked in Vienna.

### Conference language

The official language for the scientific conference on 24$^{th}$ November is English, while the keynote lectures and the round-table discussion on 23$^{rd}$ November will be given in German.

**Conference fee**

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|---|---|
| Members of the Austrian Seed Association: | 100.- Euro |
| Non-members: | 120.- Euro |
| Students (pre doc, with valid certificate): | 70.- Euro |

**Tourist information**

An important emporium for salt, wine and cereals since the Middle Ages, Korneuburg is most famous for its main square with the town hall in Neo-Gothic style and the city tower from the 15th century. In 1943, the „Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institut für Kulturpflanzenforschung“ was established nearby on the Tuttenhof under director Hans Stubbe; the institute which was later transferred to Gatersleben and is now known as the IPK.

**For the Organizing Committee**

**Heinrich Grausgruber**

**Anton Brandstetter**

## Montag, 23. November 2026

### Begrüßung & Keynotes

**12:00 – 14:00** Eintreffen und Netzwerken

**14:00 – 14:05** Begrüßung durch Veranstalter

**14:05 – 14:15** Grußworte Stephan Pernkopf, Landeshauptfrau-Stv. Niederösterreich

**14:15 – 15:00** ***Neue Genomische Techniken*, Hermann Bürstmayr, BOKU University**

**15:00 – 15:45** ***Patente auf Pflanzen*, Steffen Kawelke, Bund Deutscher Pflanzenzüchter**

### Kaffeepause

**15:45 – 16:15**

### Auswirkungen von Patenten auf mit neuen genomischen Techniken erzeugte Pflanzen

**16:15 – 16:25** Claudia Hallebach, Euroseeds Intellectual Property Commitee

**16:25 – 16:35** Michael Kock, Dr. Kock Consulting, Europäischer Patentanwalt

**16:35 – 16:45** Martin Quanz, Bayer Intellectual Property GmbH

**16:45 – 18:00** Podiumsdiskussion mit Hallebach, Kawelke, Kock und Quanz

**19:00** **„Science meets politics“: Joint Dinner bei gemütlichem Heurigen**
(Shuttle: 18:45 Uhr vor Veranstaltungsort)

Das gemeinsame Abendessen ist der alljährliche Fixpunkt der Veranstaltung. 2026 soll er die Expertinnen und Experten von Tag 1 und 2 zusammenbringen und einen Austausch zwischen Landwirtschaft, Politik, Behörden und Forschung ermöglichen. Wir freuen uns, wenn alle dabei sind!

The joint dinner is the event’s annual highlight. In 2026, it will bring together the experts from Days 1 and 2 and facilitate dialogue between the agricultural sector, politics, public authorities, and the research community. We look forward to seeing you all there!

## Tuesday, 24 November 2026

**09:00 – 09:30** **NGTs in Austria: Innovation, expectations, and perspectives**
RIBARITS Alexandra, Wien, AT

**09:30 – 10:00** **From NGT innovations to farmer impact: Field trial experiences and Europe's evolving regulatory landscape**
ROEBER Frank, München, DE

**10:00 – 10:25** **Wheat improvement using genome editing technology**
KAPUSI Eszter, Wien, AT

**10:25 – 10:50** **Genome editing of barley TOL genes to investigate ABA-dependent drought responses**
MAIR Thomas, Wien, AT

### Coffee Break
**10:50 – 11:30**

**11:30 – 11:55** **Engineering virus resistance in barley**
HOFFIE Robert, Gatersleben, DE

**11:55 – 12:20** **Barley Micro Breed - Untangling the relationship between microbes, genes and stress response**
HANAK Tobias, Slagelse, DK

**12:20 – 12:45** **VRN1 controls apical dominance and inflorescence development in barley**
PECINKA Ales, Olomouc, CZ

### Lunch Break
**12:45 – 14:00**

**14:00 – 14:25** **Explainable machine learning for GWAS: Evaluating accuracy, interpretability and computational feasibility in wheat breeding**
MILEK Joel, Tulln, AT

**14:25 – 14:50** **Evaluating multi-omics integration tools for plant breeding research: a sugar beet storability case study**
MOLIN Eva-Maria, Tulln, AT

## Tuesday, 24 November 2026

**14:50 - 15:15** **digital PCR – Quantifying seed contamination during breeding and seed multiplication**
GROSS Thomas, Gatersleben, DE

**15:15 – 15:40** **High-throughput field phenotyping for the selection of drought-efficient cereal varieties**
PAUL Kenny, Wien, AT

### Coffee Break
**15:40 – 16:10**

**16:10 – 16:35** **INSPECT – Innovative pest detection using dough rheological, spectroscopic and computed tomography methods**
PICHLER-ROHRHOFER Christian, Wien, AT

**16:35 – 17:00** **miniGIS – From optical square to digital solution**
KLAMMINGER Bernd, Adelschlag, DE

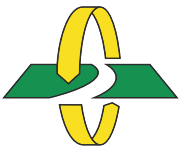
**17:00 – 17:25** **Handheld devices for assessing drought stress responses in potato: Practical applicability and interpretation**
RIBARITS Alexandra, Wien, AT

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