

SAATGUT AUSTRIA

BOKU
Institute of Crop Breeding & Genomics

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 24th November is English, while the keynote lectures and the round-table discussion on 23rd November will be given in German.

Conference fee

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 Alexander Bernhuber, Abgeordneter zum EU Parlament

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 – 10:30 **Wheat improvement using genome editing technology**
KAPUSI Eszter, Wien, AT

10:30 – 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

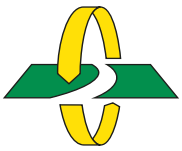
16:35 – 17:00 **miniGIS – From optical square to digital solution**
KLAMMINGER Bernd, Adelschlag, DE

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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