

Third announcement of the  
**Symposium on Breeding for Diversification**  
**19 - 21 February 2018**  
**University of Kassel, Witzenhausen, Germany**

**General objective**

Various national and international projects aim at exploiting the benefits of species mixtures to design productive, diversified, resilient and environmentally friendly agro-ecological cropping systems less dependent on external inputs than current systems and acceptable to farmers and actors in the agri-food chain. Inter- or intra-species diversity can enhance water and nutrient use efficiency and improve the control of pests, diseases and weeds, while increasing crop productivity and resilience to biotic and abiotic stresses, including those triggered by climate change. Species mixtures can lead to reduced use of fossil energy and chemical inputs and enhance production of ecosystem services. This symposium will discuss breeding and management strategies for diversification both in conventional and organic agriculture in arable or forage crops or agroforestry.

This symposium will be organised by EUCARPIA Section Organic & Low-input Agriculture, ECO-PB, DIVERSify, INSUSFAR, HealthyMinorCereals, LIVESEED, and ReMIX.

**Venue:**

University of Kassel, Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences, Steinstraße 19, 37213 Witzenhausen, Germany.

**Symposium homepage:** <http://eucarpia.ditsl.org/>

**Registration for Symposium:** <https://anmeldeservice.fibl.org/event/symposium-on-breeding-for-diversification>

Detailed **Information for Symposium Participants** with hotels list and travel description:  
<http://eucarpia.ditsl.org/docs/Information for Symposium Participants.pdf>



### Important dates:

- 15 December 2017: Deadline submission of Abstracts for posters and oral presentations (see instructions)
- 15 December 2017: Deadline Early Registration
- 15 January 2018: Decision of the scientific committee on acceptance of posters and oral presentation and preliminary program
- 1 February 2017 Final program
- 19 - 21 February 2017 Symposium

### Abstract submission

Instructions for the preparation of abstracts for poster and paper presentations can be found on Symposium homepage:

[http://eucarpia.ditsl.org/docs/Instructions\\_for\\_authors\\_Symposium\\_EUCARPIA\\_Witzenhausen.docx](http://eucarpia.ditsl.org/docs/Instructions_for_authors_Symposium_EUCARPIA_Witzenhausen.docx)

The deadline for abstract submission is **15 December 2017**.

### Participant Fees

	Early registration, before December 15, 2017	Late registration, until February 1, 2018
<b>EUCARPIA</b> member	<b>90€</b>	<b>110€</b>
non- <b>EUCARPIA</b> member	<b>130€</b>	<b>150€</b>
students	<b>30€</b>	<b>30€</b>

Fees include symposium access, coffee, tea, meals, and Book of Abstracts.



## Time Schedule (preliminary)

### Monday 19. February 2018

**Morning:** Project meetings

**13.00 - 14.00:** Registration for Symposium

**14.00 - 16.30: Breeding for intra-species diversity**

**Invited speakers and preliminary titles:**

**Steve Jones, Washington State University (USA):** Inter and intra specific breeding of wheat for diverse small farm systems in non-traditional areas of the US.

**Lars Kiær, University of Copenhagen (DK):** Trait plasticity and G x E challenges when breeding for mixture-ideotypes

**16.30 - 18.00:** *Coffee* and (guided) poster session on intra-species diversity

**18.00 - 20.00:** *Dinner and social gathering*

### Tuesday 20. February 2018

**9.00 - 11.00:** Breeding for inter-species diversity annual crops

**Invited speakers and preliminary titles:**

**Cyril Firmat, INRA Lusignan (FR):** Breeding for mixtures: varieties of approaches, opportunities and limitations

**Liesje Mommer, Wageningen University (NL):** Lessons for agriculture: below-ground insights from biodiversity experiments

**11.00 - 12.00:** *Coffee* and (guided) poster session on inter-species diversity

**12.00 - 13.00:** *Lunch*

**13.00 - 15.00:** Breeding for inter-species diversity perennial crops / agroforestry

**Invited speakers and preliminary titles:**

**Martin Wolfe, Wakelyns Agroforestry (UK):** Maximising diversification at the agricultural end of short food and energy chains

**15.00 - 15.30:** *Coffee Break*



**15.30 - 18.00:** General concepts for breeding on improved diversity

**Invited speakers and preliminary titles:**

**Paolo Annicchiarico, Centro di Zootecnia e Acquacoltura (CREA-ZA) Lodi (IT):**

Interspecific competition experiments aimed to define breeding strategies

**Jacob Weiner, University of Copenhagen (DK):** The concept of ideotypes in a crop mixtures context

**19:00** *Symposium dinner*

## **Wednesday 21. February 2018**

**9.00 - 11.30:** Open EUCARPIA/ECO-PB Session on Practical organic breeders presentation (invited speakers only)

**12.00 - 13.00:** *Lunch*

**13.00 - 17.00:** Open LIVESEED/EUCARPIA/ECO-PB workshop on new concepts and strategies for organic plant breeding with the world-café interactive sessions to further develop various aspects of systems-based breeding concept, followed by conclusions and further steps).

## **Thursday 22. February 2018**

Project meetings: To be announced within projects

### **Local organisers**

Prof. Dr. Maria Finckh, University of Kassel, Germany

Prof. Dr. Gunter Backes, University of Kassel, Germany

Dr. Jelena Baćanović-Šišić, University of Kassel, Germany

Dr. Jörg Peter Baresel, Technical University of Munich (TUM), Germany

### **Scientific Committee**

Dr. Monika Messmer, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland (LIVESEED, ECO-PB)

Prof. Dr. Edith Lammerts van Bueren, Louis Bolk Institute, Bunnik, The Netherlands (EUCARPIA, LIVESEED)

Dr. Isabelle Litrico, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA), France (ReMIX)

Dr. J.P. Baresel, Technical University of Munich (TUM), Prof. Dr. M.R. Finckh, University of Kassel, Germany (INSUSFAR)

Prof. Dr. G. Backes, University of Kassel, Germany (HealthyMinorCereals)

Prof. Dr. Lars Kiær, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (DIVERSify)

