

An event by



4TH INTERNATIONAL WHEAT CONGRESS



Patrons



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



Accademia
Nazionale
di Agricoltura



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PRE CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

BOLOGNA - ITALY

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Bologna Congress Center,
Piazza della Costituzione, 4

Conference Chair

Roberto Tuberosa

Professor Emeritus Alma Mater Studiorum
Università di Bologna

International Organising Committee
Chair

Rajeev Varshney

Murdoch University, Australia

CURRENT TRENDS AND CHALLENGES IN WHEAT BREEDING

ROOM 2

13:30 - 18:00



Avenue media®
Conference & Expo



WWC 4TH INTERNATIONAL
WHEAT CONGRESS

BOLOGNA, ITALY - MAY 25-29, 2026

Pre-conference Workshops
Sunday, 24 May 2026

CURRENT TRENDS AND CHALLENGES IN WHEAT BREEDING

Organized by the Wheat Initiative Breeding EWGs

Room 2

Chair: Margaret Krause (Oregon State University, USA)

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|---------------|--|
| 13:30 – 13:40 | Welcome and attendee introductions |
| 13:40 – 13:50 | Words from Dr. Hubert Kempft, EWG's liason to the Wheat Initiative's Scientific Board |
| 13:50 – 14:15 | The arts and science of genetic gain for short duration wheat in Bangladesh
Md Farhad, Bangladesh Wheat and Maize Research Institute, Bangladesh |
| 14:15 – 14:40 | Genetics and breeding of field-ready cultivars for the Canadian Parkland Region
Gurcharn Brar, University of Alberta, Canada |
| 14:40 – 15:05 | Ensemble learning frameworks optimization UAV-assisted grain yield prediction in winter wheat
Arpit Gaur, Montana State University, USA |
| 15:05 – 15:10 | Short break |



BOLOGNA, ITALY - MAY 25-29, 2026

- 15:10 – 15:35 **A framework for implementing genomic prediction in public breeding programs using historical nurseries**
Charlotte Brault, University of Minnesota, USA
- 15:35–16:00 **Genomic prediction of stem structural biomass uncovers productivity trade-off under Mediterranean climate**
Roi Ben-David, Volcani Institute, Israel
- 16:00–16:30 Coffee break
- 16:30–16:40 **Review of past EWG activities from 2025 and 2026**
- 16:40–17:30 **Mapping out the future – a brainstorming session to develop activities, initiatives, collaborations, etc. for the future of the EWG**
- 17:30–18:00 **Supporting our early-career members – a discussion of how the EWG can better support its early-career researchers**