

An event by



4TH INTERNATIONAL WHEAT CONGRESS



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UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



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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

WHEAT GERmplasm CONSERVATION & UTILIZATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

ROOM 6

13:30 - 18:00



Avenue media®
Conference & Expo



BOLOGNA, ITALY - MAY 25-29, 2026

Pre-conference Workshops
Sunday, 24 May 2026

**WHEAT GERMPLASM CONSERVATION & UTILIZATION:
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Organized by the Wheat Initiative Germplasm EWG

Room 6

Co-chairs: Benjamin Kilian (Global Crop Diversity Trust, Germany),
Shivali Sharma (Global Crop Diversity Trust, India), Peter Civan (INRAE, France), and Hakan
Ozkan (Çukurova University, Turkey)

13:30 – 13:45 **Benjamin Kilian:** Welcome Remarks and Introduction of the Participants

13:34 – 13:50 **Peter Civan:** Overview of the Workshop

Session 1

Chair: Hakan Ozkan

13:50 – 14:15 **Development of Wheat Genetic Resource Platforms for Research and
Breeding at Kyoto University, Japan**
Kentaro Yoshida - *Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University, Japan*

14:15 – 14:40 **Exploitation of Wild Wheat Germplasms as a Robust Strategy for Breeding
Climate-Resilient Wheat**
Hisashi Tsujimoto - *Tottori University, Japan*



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- 14:40 – 15:05 **Survey of *ex situ* wild wheat diversity to guide the development of a reference germplasm collection**
Elisabetta Mazzucotelli - *Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), Research Centre for Genomics and Bioinformatics, Fiorenzuola d'Arda (PC), Italy*
- 15:05 – 15:30 **A Wild Emmer collection to discover and introgress plant traits for drought resilience**
Castorina Giulia - *Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA) Research Centre for Genomics & Bioinformatic, Fiorenzuola d'Arda PC, Italy*
- 15:30 – 16:00 *Group photo and coffee break*
- Session 2**
Chair: Benjamin Kilian
- 16:00 – 16:25 **Unlocking Genetic Diversity for Climate-Resilient Durum Wheat Improvement**
Meryem Zaim - ICARDA, Morocco
- 16:25 – 16:50 **A Balkan Durum Wheat Panel for Resistance to Mosaic and Streak Viruses under Climate Change**
Ana Velimirovic - Biotechnical Faculty, University of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro
- 16:50 – 17:15 **Evaluation, validation, and mapping of disease resistance in wheat through collaboration between breeders and research institutes**
Tanja Gerjets - German Federation for Plant Innovation (GFPI), Bonn, Germany
- 17:15 – 17:40 **Plenary Session**
Shivali Sharma



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17:40 – 17:50

Award Ceremony and Certificate distribution

Moderator: Shivali Sharma

17:50 – 18:00

Vote of Thanks

Peter Civan