

An event by



4TH INTERNATIONAL WHEAT CONGRESS



Patrons



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



Accademia
Nazionale
di Agricoltura



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Associazione Industriali Mugnai d'Italia



PRE CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS BOLOGNA - ITALY Sunday, May 24, 2026

Bologna Congress Center,
Piazza della Costituzione, 4

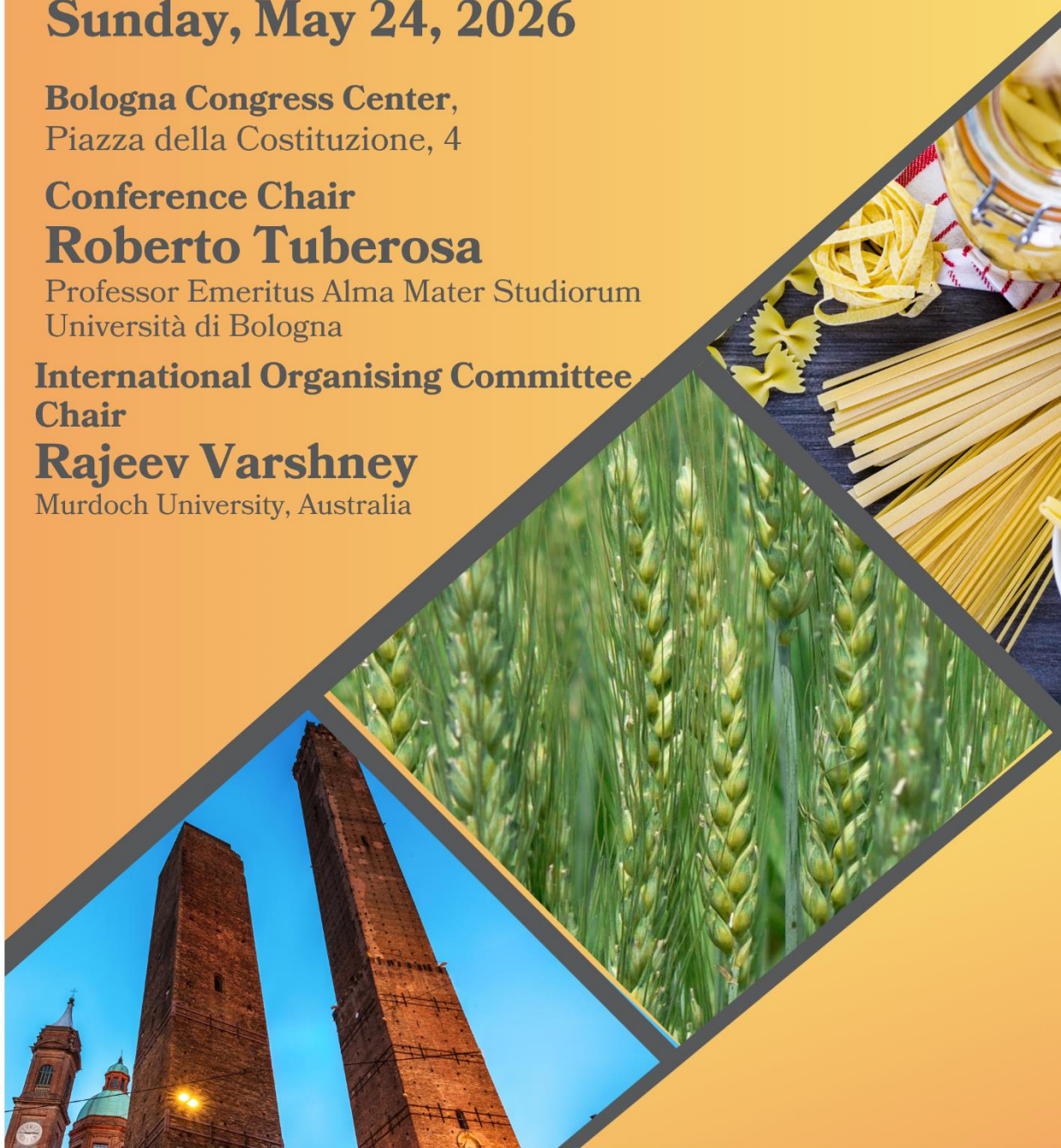
Conference Chair
Roberto Tuberosa

Professor Emeritus Alma Mater Studiorum
Università di Bologna

International Organising Committee
Chair

Rajeev Varshney

Murdoch University, Australia



DURUM FOR THE FUTURE FARMER AND VALUE CHAIN

ROOM 5

09:00 - 12:30



Avenue media®
Conference & Expo



BOLOGNA, ITALY - MAY 25-29, 2026

Pre-conference Workshops Sunday, 24 May 2026

DURUM FOR THE FUTURE FARMER AND VALUE CHAIN

Organized by the Wheat Initiative Durum Wheat EWG

Room 5

Chair: Luigi Cattivelli (CREA, Italy)

Organizers: Luigi Cattivelli, Agata Gadaleta, Anna M. Mastrangelo, Karim Ammar,
Jose M. Soriano

09:00 – 09:10 **Luigi Cattivelli:** introduction to the meeting

09:10 – 09:25 **Joshua Hegarty** (UC Davis USA) Towards a GA sensitive semi-dwarf wheat via
gene editing of microRNA172–AP2L2 (remote presentation)

Heat and drought

09:25– 09:40 **Pilar Hernandez** (IAS Spain) Hyperspectral and thermal remote sensing for
drought stress detection to inform durum wheat adaptation (*remote
presentation*)

09:40 – 09:55 **Roshan Paudel** (University of Bologna Italy) Dissecting Heat-Stress Tolerance
Mechanisms in Durum Wheat Germplasm

09:55 – 10:10 **Giulia Castorina** (CREA Italy) Dissecting stomatal responses to drought in wild
emmer wheat to improve water use efficiency in durum wheat



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- 10:10 – 10:25 **Anna Maria Mastrangelo** (CREA Italy) Genome-wide association study of root morphology traits in a collection of durum wheat cultivars and landraces
- 10:25 – 10:35 **Genet Atsbeha** (University of Bologna Italy) Surveying the root growth angle QTLome in global durum genomic resources for enhanced adaptation to water availability
- 10:35 – 10:50 coffee break

Pest and diseases

- 10:50 – 11:05 **Steven Xu** (USDA USA) Identification and cloning of a greenbug resistance gene from *Aegilops tauschii*
- 11:05 – 11:20 **Chunyi Liu** (University of Bologna Italy) Loci relevant for yellow rust resistance in durum wheat adapted to the Mediterranean environments identified in cultivars and landraces germplasm through genome-wide association study
- 11:20 – 11:30 **Michela Giunti** (University of Bari and CREA Italy) Durum landraces as a valuable gene pool to uncover and map resistance to *Septoria tritici* blotch

Adaptation to environment

- 11:30 – 11:45 **Filippo Bassi** (ICARDA Morocco) ICARDA durum: G vs E
- 11:45 – 12:00 **Matteo Bozzoli** (University of Bologna) Combining genomics, phenomics and phenotyping analysis to characterize GxExM effects of durum and bread wheat varieties under multi-environmental trials



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- 12:00 – 12:10 **Roi Ben-David** (ARO Israel) Eco-geographic and genomic imprints on Emmer wheat phenotypic performance under Mediterranean climate
- 12:10 – 12:20 **Ljiljana Kuzmanović** (University of Tuscia Italy) Harnessing *Thinopyrum* spp. homoeologous group 7 variability to improve durum wheat adaptation and productivity under abiotic stress
- 12:20 – 12:30 **Raul Pirona** (CNR Italy)
Integrated GWAS and metabolomic analyses provide novel details about the genetic basis of free asparagine accumulation in durum wheat grains
- 12:30 **Closing remarks**