

# Symposium Program

## Day 1: August 15

- 9:00-22:00      **Registration**  
Main Entrance, Lanzhou Legend Hotel
- 12:00-13:30     **Lunch Time**  
On the third floor of Tsuiying Hotel
- 18:00-20:00     **Dinner Time**  
On the second floor of Danguiyuan, the main campus

## Symposium Location: Feiyun Hall, the main campus

## Day 2: August 16

- 8:30-9:10        **Opening Ceremony**

**Chairperson** **Suo-Min Wang**, Lanzhou University, China

Address: **Prof. Cheng Wang**, President of Lanzhou University

Address: **Prof. Xu Liu**, the academician and Vice President of Chinese Academy of Engineering

Address: **Dr. Yuan Hao**, Vice Governor of Gansu Province

- 9:10-9:50        **Symposium Photo and Coffee Break**

**Moderator** **Tao Wang**, China Agricultural University, China

- 9:50-10:50      Opening keynote lecture: **Prof. German Spangenberg**,  
Agriculture Victoria, Australia  
Advances in systems biology and molecular breeding of forages

## Session I : Germplasm, Diversity, and Its Impact on Breeding

- 10:50-11:20     Keynote speech: **Hitoshi Nakagawa**, Hamamatsu Photonics K.  
K., Japan  
Gamma-ray induced bloomless (*bm*) mutants and identification  
of the gene in sweet sorghum
- 11:20-11:50     Keynote speech: **Gongshe Liu**, Chinese Academy of Sciences,  
China

Mechanism of gene alternative splicing and its impact on plant breeding

11:50-12:20 Keynote speech: **Maofeng Chai**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
Molecular mechanism of seed physical dormancy in *Medicago truncatula*

12:20-14:30 **Lunch Break and Session I / II Posters Presentation**  
[Have lunch on the second floor of Danguiyuan](#)  
[View posters in the Feiyun Hall](#)

**Moderator Gongshe Liu**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

14:30-15:00 Keynote speech: **Luke Pembleton**, Agriculture Victoria, Australia  
Enabling F1 hybrid breeding and rapid implementation of genomic selection in perennial ryegrass breeding

15:00-15:15 **Jiangqi Wen**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
Application of *Medicago* mutant resources in alfalfa breeding

15:15-15:30 **Wengang Xie**, Lanzhou University, China  
Transcriptomic analysis of Siberian wild rye (*Elymus sibiricus* L.) and identification of candidate genes essential for seed shattering

15:30-15:45 **Baldomero Alarcon-Zuniga**, Universidad Autonoma Chapingo, Mexico  
Native tropical legumes as novel genetic resources to increase protein content in American tropical grassland

15:45-16:00 **Yanqi Wu**, Oklahoma State University, USA  
Breeding hybrid cultivars assisted with molecular markers in switchgrass

16:00-16:20 **Coffee Break**

**Moderator Jinmin Fu**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

## **Session II: Bioenergy and Biorenewables**

16:20-16:50 Keynote speech: **Toshihiko Yamada**, Hokkaido University, Japan  
Molecular breeding of perennial biomass crops

- 16:50-17:20 Keynote speech: **Yiwei Jiang**, Purdue University, USA  
Genetic control of flowering and biomass in switchgrass
- 17:20-17:50 Keynote speech: **Malay Saha**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
Molecular breeding for sustainable switchgrass improvement
- 17:50-18:05 **Chunxiang Fu**, Chinese Academy of Science, China  
A high throughput switchgrass genetic transformation system for gene function discovery and genetic improvement
- 18:30-20:00 **Welcome Dinner**  
On the second floor of Danguiyuan, the main campus

### Day 3: August 17

Moderator **Yanqi Wu**, Oklahoma State University, USA

#### Session III: Abiotic and Biotic Stresses

- 8:30-9:00 Keynote speech: **Suo-Min Wang**, Lanzhou University, China  
The physiological adaptation and forage quality of T1 transgenic alfalfa co-expressing *ZxNHX* and *ZxVPI-1* from *Zygophyllum xanthoxylum* in response to stress conditions
- 9:00-9:30 Keynote speech: **Bingru Huang**, Rutgers University, USA  
Molecular and metabolic regulatory mechanisms of stress-induced leaf senescence in grass species
- 9:30-10:00 Keynote speech: **Zhenfei Guo**, South China Agricultural University, China  
Exploring cold tolerance in *Medicago sativa* spp. *falcata*
- 10:00-10:20 **Coffee Break**

Moderator **Jianxiu Liu**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

- 10:20-10:35 **Zhulong Chan**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
Improved abiotic stress tolerance of bermudagrass by exogenous small molecules
- 10:35-10:50 **Aike Bao**, Lanzhou University, China  
The mechanism and molecular basis underlying salt secretion in *Reaumuria soongorica*

- 10:50-11:05 **Longxi Yu**, Washington State University, USA  
Genome-wide association studies on resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses in autotetraploid alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) using genotyping by sequencing
- 11:05-11:20 **Shyamal Talukder**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
Deciphering summer dormancy for persistence of tall fescue in hot and dry conditions

Moderator **Jinlin Zhang**, Lanzhou University, China

### Session IV: Emerging Tools for Forage and Turf Research

- 11:20-12:50 Keynote speech: **Paul Hooykaas**, Leiden University, The Netherlands  
Agrobacterium mediated protein and T-DNA delivery: a toolbox for plants and fungi
- 11:50-12:05 **Jianxiu Liu**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
The assessment, innovation and breeding of main warm season turfgrass conducted in NBG-CAS
- 12:05-14:30 **Lunch Break and Session III/IV/V Posters Presentation**  
[Have lunch on the third floor of Tsuiying Hotel](#)  
[View posters in the Feiyun Hall](#)

Moderator **Shaun Bushman**, US Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service, USA

- 14:30-15:00 Keynote speech: **Pieter Badenhorst**, Agriculture Victoria, Australia  
The development of a field-based forage phenomics platform
- 15:00-15:30 Keynote speech: **Maria Monteros**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
Alfalfa genome sequencing and development of an alfalfa breeder's toolbox
- 15:30-15:45 **De Pater Sylvia**, Leiden University, The Netherlands  
Nuclease-induced targeted mutagenesis and gene-targeting

Moderator **Byunghyun Lee**, Gyeongsang National University, Korea

## Session V: Plant-Microbe Interactions

- 15:45-16:00      **Deborah Samac**, United States Department of Agriculture, USA  
Strategies for developing resistance to root rot diseases of alfalfa
- 16:00-16:20      **Coffee Break**
- 16:20-16:50      Keynote speech: **Carolyn Young**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
It's the little things that matter: microbes that impact forage production
- 16:50-17:20      Keynote speech: **Kevin Smith**, The University of Melbourne, Australia  
Developing a co-existence framework for GM forages in grazing systems
- 17:20-17:35      **Jinlin Zhang**, Lanzhou University, China  
Induced growth promotion and stress tolerance in ryegrass by *Haloxylon ammodendron* rhizobacteria
- 17:35-17:50      **Wei He**, Northwestern University, China  
Characterization and comparison of fungal communities in rhizospheric and bulk soil of *Stellera chamaejasme* by amplicon sequencing
- 17:50-18:05      **Sami Ullah Khan**, University of Haripur, Pakistan  
Humic acid in combination with different levels of nitrogen yields an auxiliary impact on growth and yield potential of field grown maize (*Zea mays* L.) genotypes
- 18:05-20:00      **Dinner Time**  
On the second floor of Danguiyuan, the main campus

### Day 4: August 18

Interval conference trip to **Yuzhong Experimental Station for Grass and Forage Breeding of Lanzhou University** and **Tourism** in Lanzhou

Meet your tour bus at 8:00AM at the gate of Lanzhou University (In front of our Symposium display card).

Tour bus will return delegates to Lanzhou (Lanzhou University, the main campus) at

11:00AM. Then delegates have lunch on the third floor of Tsuiying Hotel (On the north side of the gate of Lanzhou University).

The afternoon is free time, delegates can tour and go shopping in Lanzhou.

Delegates have dinner on the second floor of Danguiyuan from 6:00PM-8:00PM.

## Day 5: August 19

Moderator **Hao Lin**, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China

### SessionVI: Functional Genetics and Genomics and Genetic Mapping

- 8:30-9:00 Keynote speech: **Xinquan Zhang**, Sichuan Agricultural University, China  
Genomic selection in forage grasses
- 9:00-9:30 Keynote speech: **John Forster**, Agriculture Victoria, Australia  
Genetics and genomics of self-incompatibility in forage grasses
- 9:30-10:00 Keynote speech: **Zhuo Yu**, Inner Mongolia Agricultural University, China  
Construction of high-density molecular genetic maps and QTLs for main agronomic traits of tetraploid hybrid wheatgrass
- 10:00-10:20 **Coffee Break**

Moderator **Hongwen Gao**, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China

- 10:20-10:50 Keynote speech: **Noel Cogan**, Agriculture Victoria, Australia  
The structure of the perennial ryegrass genome
- 10:50-11:05 **Shaun Bushman**, United States Department of Agriculture, USA  
Alleles of genes affecting flowering time in cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata*)
- 11:05-11:20 **Chuanen Zhou**, Shandong University, China  
Regulation of leaf development in *Medicago truncatula* and the forage quality improvement of Alfalfa

Moderator **Deborah Samac**, United States Department of Agriculture, USA

11:20-11:35 **Meiliang Zhou**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
Functional analysis of phenylalanine metabolism related MYB factors in buckwheat

11:35-11:50 **Zhanmin Sun**, Chinese Academy of Science, China  
Function analysis of salt stress responsive AP2/ERF transcription factor LcSRA1 from *Lotus corniculatus* L.

11:50-12:05 **Zhipeng Liu**, Lanzhou University, China  
Development and cross-species transferability of EST-SSR markers in *Elymus sibiricus*

12:05-12:20 **Yongzhen Pang**, Chinese Academy of Science, China  
Genome-wide identification of UDP-glycosyltransferases involved in flavonol glycoside biosynthesis in *Lotus japonicus*

12:20-14:30 **Lunch Break and Session VI Posters Presentation**  
[Have lunch on the second floor of Danguiyuan](#)  
[View posters in the Feiyun Hall](#)

**Moderator** **Baldomero Alarcon-Zuniga**, Universidad Autonoma Chapingo, Mexico

14:30-14:45 **Jiyu Zhang**, Lanzhou University, China  
Analysis of phylogenic relationships and genetic diversity in the genus *Melilotus*

14:45-15:00 **Quanwen Dou**, Chinese Academy of Science, China  
Comparative cytogenetic analysis in *Medicago sativa* complex: sativa-coerulea-falcata

15:00-15:15 **Zhaoqing Chu**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
Cool season turf molecular breeding benefits from genomic and genetic analyses on *Brachypodium distachyon*

15:15-15:30 **Hans Daetwyler**, Agriculture Victoria, Australia  
Genomic selection in forage grasses

**Moderator** **Yongzhen Pang**, Chinese Academy of Science, China

15:30-15:45 **Mingxiang Liang**, Nanjing Agricultural University, China  
Cloning and functional characterization of *Helianthus tuberosus* fructan 1-exohydrolases (1-FEHs)

- 15:45-16:00      **Wanjun Zhang**, China Agriculture University, China  
Using an Arabidopsis orphan gene, *QQS*, improved forage quality of perennial ryegrass and alfalfa
- 16:00-16:20      **Coffee Break**
- 16:20-16:35      **Bin Xu**, Nanjing Agricultural University, China  
Improving forage quality by controlled regulation of senescence-associated genes in perennial ryegrass
- 16:35-17:35      Closing keynote lecture: **Prof. Zeng-Yu Wang**, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, USA  
Future perspectives of forage improvement
- 17:35-17:50      **Concluding Remarks**  
**Prof. German Spangenberg**, Agriculture Victoria, Australia
- 18:30-20:00      **Farewell Dinner**  
[In Yujie dining Hall \(At the Great Wall Hotel, delegates can find the specific location via the Symposium Map\)](#)