

Students' reports



EAPR Breeding and Varietal Assessment
Section and EUCARPIA Section Potatoes

19th Joint Meeting

Rostock-Warnemuende, Germany – December 3rd - 6th, 2018

Dear EAPR organizers,

It was very nice to take participation in the 19th Joint Meeting held in Rostock-Warnemuende, Germany on December 3rd – 6th, 2018. The organization of the meeting was brilliant. I came from Ukrainian Plant Breeding and Genetics Institute – National Center of Seed and Cultural Investigation with the poster “Orthologs of Solanum Hardening Causing Genes”. On the first day there was held the registration, Poster Display and Welcome Reception where young scientists and students had opportunity to get acquainted with real professionals and make real scientific contribution to the conference. Throughout the next days, ten scientific sessions were opened and successfully held, namely breeding for yield stability, resistance breeding, breeding for special traits, precision phenotyping, varietal assessment, organic breeding, genomics-assisted breeding, breeding with genetic resources, diploid breeding and gene editing and mutation breeding. All sessions were very interesting and scientifically enriching, but for me personally the most useful and satisfying one was the session about breeding for special traits, precisely the report about the genetic control of tuber dormancy and sprout elongation in potato. The atmosphere during the EARP meeting was very easygoing and scientifically pleasant, and the social program was fabulous including the trip for Rostock city and visit to Christmas market. I would like to thank all the staff and mostly EARP organizers for the wonderful opportunity to become part of the held 19th Joint Meeting of European Association for Potato Research and make a little contribution personally from Ukrainian scientific institute for the benefit of humankind.

Wishing all the best,

Olga Kolesnyk,
Ukraine

Dear EAPR organizers,

The event exceeded my expectations. The members of the organization were very attentive, giving errands or answering questions. The scheme in which the event was assembled was dynamic and bringing sections with very interesting themes. The high-quality speakers and discussions that encompassed the current scenario held attention and reflected on some issues. During the event, it was possible to make contacts that are already generating partnerships and joint research. As we are starting our breeding program, the event was of great importance to bring some ideas to light and further encouraged me to work with this culture. With this great experience, I look forward to the next event.

Best regards

João Vitor Nomura

Brasil

EAPR 2018 – 19th Joint Meeting

Being a PhD student in the last phase of my project, I decided to attend the EAPR 19th Joint Meeting as I believed it would be a great opportunity to present my work and expand my professional network.

I was given the opportunity to present my work in an oral presentation. To me, this is the best way to make my work known by a maximum of people from more or less related fields. To my great pleasure, many colleagues from breeding companies and research institutes came to me before my presentation to let me know they were very curious to know more about my work. Another great satisfaction was the numerous questions I got after my talk, which is the sign for me that my work is interesting and meaningful. I was very pleased to see that more and more importance is given to the research performed on the potato wart disease, which brings me to another positive aspect of my participation to the conference: being able to talk about my specific topic with other experts.

During the conference, I came to discuss interesting aspects of the potato wart disease research with peers from other research groups. These discussions were very inspiring and helpful for me. Also, it was the best opportunity I could have had to request interesting material I wanted to include in my experiments. Not only the discussions with other researchers were inspiring. My talk brought many questions about the donor of the resistance locus I mapped in my project, and I got exciting discussions with potato breeders about the pedigree of varieties resistant to the wart disease.

Finally, being in the last year of my PhD, the conference offered me the chance to expand my professional network. Soon, I will have to look for my dream job, and I am convinced that the contacts I made during the conference will be important in this undertaking.

Charlotte Prodhomme

The Netherlands

Dear EAPR organizers,

For me as a student this EAPR-conference was a great event and gave me new impressions of science outside of the university. It was a big thing for me to get free access of this conference and I think projects like this gave us students more opportunities to get in contact with scientists all around the world.

The presentations, especially the keynotes, were very interesting, but second day there was a lot talking about breeding of potato and many information was presented more than just two times. But altogether I heard many new things in this presentations which go further than the lectures from the professors of my university.

The unexpected and best part of this meeting was the communication with other scientists. I never expected to get in touch with so many people from all around the world. It was surprising to be addressed by postdocs and professors to discuss about my poster. I also have got some new thoughts and ideas for my own project out of this.

All in all it was great to visit this conference and I need to say thanks to the organisation which gave me the free access. I will try to visit more events like this in the future.

Best regards

Nils Schmidt

Germany

Dear EAPR organizers,

On December the 3rd – 6th, 2018 there was held in Rostock-Warnemuende, Germany the 19th Joint Meeting of European Association for Potato Research Section 'Breeding and Varietal Assessment' where my Ukrainian colleagues and I took part and made a scientific report named "Virus Resistance Encoding Genes and their Homologs in Solanum". Overall the held joint meeting had provided a wonderful opportunity for 118 participants from 27 countries to take part and make scientific contributions as well as to update the scientific state of the art of potato research and breeding. There were held a lot of scientific meetings and sessions such as breeding for yield stability, resistance breeding, breeding for special traits, precision phenotyping, varietal assessment, organic breeding, genomics-assisted breeding, breeding with genetic resources, diploid breeding and gene editing and mutation breeding. During the resistance breeding session I had wonderful opportunity to enrich my knowledge in many subjects especially about the impact of modern genomics on potato disease resistance breeding. After productive work at the sessions participants were pleasantly entertained with a visit to a wonderful Christmas Market at Rostock downtown on the ferry boat. Young scientists also had opportunity to become part of Poster elevator pitch and get acquainted with other works not only throughout the held sessions but also during the friendly lunches and dinners. I am very grateful for given to me by the honored organizers of the 19th EAPR Joint Meeting of such a great opportunity to become part of this event and make contribution from Ukrainian scientific researches towards the improvement of potato varietal assessment.

With kind regards

Andrii Venger,

Ukraine