IFTBC

International Forage & Turf Breeding Conference

A Global Vision for Innovation

March 24-27, 2019

Lake Buena Vista, FL, USA

The International Forage & Turfgrass Breeding Conference (IFTBC) is the first joint meeting of the 10th Molecular Breeding of Forages and Turf Conference (MBFT) and the 6th International Symposium of Forage Breeding (ISFB). This first of a kind joint meeting will be held in March 2019 in Orlando, Florida. The time and venue have been selected to allow participants to experience the transition in species composition from cool to warm season in North and Central Florida. Participants will also enjoy Florida's delightful weather at this time of year. We believe forage and turfgrass improvement research is on the precipice of revolutionary developments and this conference offers a unique opportunity for worldwide showcase and collaboration.

About the Conference

The MBFT conference has previously met in various international venues including Dallas, TX; The Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK; USDA Forage and Range Lab, Logan UT (all in the USA); Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth, Wales; Sapporo, Japan; Istanbul, Turkey; and Lanzhou, China. The first three ISFB were organized by scientists with EMBRAPA and held in Brazil, with more recent meetings at La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia and National University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

These two conferences traditionally bring together the premier forage and turf breeding scientists from around the world and have become a select "go to" venue for modern plant breeders. Following the 5th ISFB in Argentina in October 2015 and the 9th MBFT in Lanzhou, China in July 2016, organizers for both conferences agreed to attempt a combined meeting of both groups in Florida in 2019.

The UF/IFAS Agronomy Department will host this combined meeting in the spring of 2019. Primary local organizers include Ken Quesenberry, Emeritus Professor of forage and turfgrass breeding, Ann Blount, Professor of forage and small grains breeding, Fredy Altpeter, Professor of breeding and molecular genetics of forage and bioenergy crops, Kevin Kenworthy, Professor of turfgrass and forage breeding, and Esteban Rios, Assistant Professor of forage breeding and genetics.

www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/iftbc2019

Who Should Attend?

This first of a kind IFTBC conference is the ideal venue to bring together breeders, geneticists, statisticians, and students actively engaged in applying modern tools to accelerate breeding, enhance genetic gain and improve adaptation of forages, turfgrasses and bioenergy crops. If your research interest is on genetics, genomics, phenomics, and/or breeding forages, turfgrasses and bioenergy crops, you should strongly consider attending and presenting in this conference!

Conference participants will include:

- Geneticists and plant breeders
- Forage, turfgrass, and bioenergy crop improvement managers
- Private industry forage and turfgrass professionals
- Academic scientists, and post-doctoral, graduate and undergraduate students
- Forage, turfgrass, and bioenergy crop product retailers and wholesalers
- Forage, turfgrass, and bioenergy crop physiology, entomology, and plant pathology professionals
- State and federal government personnel
- Non-for-profit research institutes

Benefits of Attending

If your work focuses on using applied genetics, biotechnology, phenomics and/or genomics to accelerate forage, turfgrass and/or bioenergy cultivar development, you should attend this conference. When you leave IFTBC, you will walk away with the most up-to-date information on novel tools applied in crop improvement, and garner many additional valuable benefits such as networking with worldwide colleagues.

You'll learn the latest on:

- Better methods to advance the breeding and genetic science through the sharing of the most current scientific research being conducted in the worldwide community.
- Ways to enhance your breeding program through accelerated breeding methods for a wide variety of desirable traits such as yield, quality and improved disease resistance.
- How to identify target traits that will help maximize higher profits for the producer community.

Take advantage of this opportunity that only occurs once every three to four years and make plans to join us!

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