



**Vth World Congress
OF AGRONOMISTS
AND AGROLOGISTS**

September 17-21, 2012
Québec City Convention Centre
QUÉBEC - CANADA

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

FEEDING THE WORLD

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

Sub-theme 1:

Approximately 25 years from now, it is anticipated that agriculture will need to feed nearly 9 billion people. What challenges does this present and how should we prepare ourselves to meet them now?

PLENARY SESSION I

8:30 am	- Registration
8:45 am	- Welcome and presentation of the Congress program
9:00 am	- Guest speakers
9:30 am	- How will food requirements evolve during the next 25 years?
10:15 am	- Break

PLENARY SESSION II

10:45 am	- A portrait of the world food situation as well as future trends
12:00 am	- On site luncheon

Sub-theme 2:

With the foreseeable increase in world population and the growing necessity to satisfy non-food needs with agricultural solutions, not only must more food be produced but also in better, more innovative ways. (4 concurrent sessions)

SESSION 1	IS THERE A PLACE FOR GENOMICS? A friend for some, a foe for others, where will genetic improvements fit in agriculture?	SESSION 2	NEW PRODUCTS, NEW PRODUCTIONS Through continual renewal, will agriculture give rise to new products and new markets?
1:30 pm	Genetically modified organisms: private and public research and intellectual property	1:30 pm	What's in store for the development of non-food bio-products?
2:00 pm	Reduction of biodiversity in agriculture: myth or reality?	2:00 pm	Controlled designation of origin and niche markets, a source of quality and the development of local agriculture
2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
3:00 pm	Discussion	3:00 pm	Discussion
SESSION 3	NEW WAYS OF PRODUCING What will be the advantages and disadvantages of new models of agricultural production in terms of feeding the world?	SESSION 4	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE Can agriculture maintain a fair balance between the social, environmental and economic aspects of development?
1:30 pm	What is the future of organic farming?	1:30 pm	Agricultural models that follow environmental and ethical rules
2:00 pm	Agroforestry as a means of rural and food development	2:00 pm	Can we reduce inputs and still have a productive and viable agriculture?
2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
3:00 pm	Discussion	3:00 pm	Discussion
3:15 pm Break			

Sub-theme 3:

The increase in demand for agricultural commodities will exert pressure on the resources necessary for production, in turn affecting our future ability to feed the world. (4 concurrent sessions)

SESSION 5	WATER, AN ESSENTIAL FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION How can we ensure water quality and availability considering it is an essential component of agricultural production?	SESSION 6	ENERGY RESOURCES Is it possible to satisfy the increasing demand for energy in agriculture?
3:45 pm	New ways to use water in agriculture and agri-food activities	3:45 pm	Future development of renewable and non-renewable energy sources
4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
4:45 pm	Discussion	4:45 pm	Discussion
SESSION 7	SOIL AND LAND AVAILABILITY How does agriculture retain access to good soil with the increasing demand from other land uses?	SESSION 8	CLIMATE CHANGE Entirely dependent on climate conditions, how will agriculture adapt to climate changes?
3:45 pm	Land use: the competition between agriculture and other human activities	3:45 pm	Global warming: mitigation and adaptation for the agriculture and agri-food sectors
4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
4:45 pm	Discussion	4:45 pm	Discussion
5:00 pm End of session			

FEEDING THE WORLD

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Sub-theme 4:

Food security is affected by more than the ability to produce. In order to feed the world, we must also ensure that food makes it to the table in sufficient quality and quantity.

PLENARY SESSION III

- 8:30 am – World hunger: what have we learned from the food crises of 2008 and 2011?
- 9:15 am – How to develop into a world agri-food leader while still preserving the vitality of local and family agriculture?
- 10:00 am – Break

PLENARY SESSION IV

- 10:30 am – Causes of food insecurity in developing countries and possible solutions: the African situation
- 11:15 am – How to better manage risks in agriculture on both a global and local level
- 12:00 am – On site luncheon

Sub-theme 5:

In a global context, as well as on a local level, the means to produce and the needs of consumers are not distributed evenly. Agricultural systems and food policies influence the ability to ensure that entire populations are well-fed. (4 concurrent sessions)

SESSION 9	THE PLACE OF THE CONSUMER WITHIN AGRICULTURE In the North, consumers fear their food whereas in the South they do not have access to it. Can we bring consumers and producers closer?	SESSION 10	AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND THE ABILITY TO PRODUCE How can agricultural policies affect agricultural development and rural life?
1:30 pm	What are the possible ways to reconcile the gap between the producers and consumers of food?	1:30 pm	Influence of agricultural policies on rural areas
2:00 pm	How to improve the nutritional content and availability of food for the underprivileged?	2:00 pm	Agri-food policies and their relationship to hunger and poverty
2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
3:00 pm	Discussion	3:00 pm	Discussion
SESSION 11	ORGANIZING THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR TO HELP PRODUCERS What challenges do agricultural organizations have to face in a global market and with a decreasing number of food processors and retailers?	SESSION 12	THE FUTURE OF SMALL PRODUCERS Are there any strategies that can be adopted by small agricultural enterprises to continue their development while satisfying market needs?
1:30 pm	Cooperatives as an alternative economic model: recent developments and challenges	1:30 pm	Microcredit and access to resources
2:00 pm	Different models of collective marketing: recent developments and perspectives	2:00 pm	Urban and peri-urban agriculture, and local markets for improving the quality of life
2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	2:30 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
3:00 pm	Discussion	3:00 pm	Discussion
3:15 pm Break			



FEEDING THE WORLD

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Sub-theme 6:

The links between food and health are undeniable and now better understood. Eating satisfies not only our nutritional requirements but also provides health benefits through healthy products. (4 concurrent sessions)

SESSION 13	THE PLACE OF THE CONSUMER IN AGRICULTURE AND THE AGRI-FOOD CHAIN The consumer affects agriculture through purchasing choices: how can we respond to these numerous and diversified demands?	SESSION 14	FOOD AND HEALTH In a society that is becoming more and more preoccupied by healthy choices, can collective interests affect individual choices?
3:45 pm	Evolution of consumer needs and demands	3:45 pm	Do agricultural policies influence food and nutritional habits?
4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
4:45 pm	Discussion	4:45 pm	Discussion
SESSION 15	AGRI-FOOD SOLUTIONS What have we learned and where we can we expect to go with healthy foods?	SESSION 16	FOOD QUALITY AND SAFETY Can we satisfy increased nutritional demands while maintaining food quality and safety?
3:45 pm	Nutraceuticals and functional foods	3:45 pm	The safety-first principle and food traceability for consumer protection
4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme	4:15 pm	3 short presentations pertaining to the theme
4:45 pm	Discussion	4:45 pm	Discussion
5:00 pm End of session / 7:00 pm Cocktail / 8:00 pm Banquet			

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Sub-theme 7:

Agronomists and agrologists are among the best professionals to assume future leadership in addressing the major challenge of feeding the world: how do we ensure success?

PLENARY SESSION V

- 8:30 am - Information systems: How to favour the transfer and adoption of new ideas and new practices
- 9:15 am - How to prepare future generations of professionals and scientists to meet the challenges of the agriculture and agri-food sectors
- 10:00 am - Break

PLENARY SESSION VI

- 10:30 am - The commitment of future leaders in the agriculture and agri-food sectors for the future of the planet
- 11:15 am - Closing speech: "A plea for communication among professionals in the agriculture and agri-food sectors"
- 12:00 am - The Agronomist and Agrologist Declaration 2012
- 1:30 pm - General Assembly of AMIA
Technical Visits
- 5:00 pm - End of session

AGRONOMISTS AND AGROLOGISTS: FRONT AND CENTER IN FACING THE CHALLENGES OF LOCAL AND GLOBAL FOOD PRODUCTION

Agronomists and agrologists contribute daily to shaping sustainable agricultural production, to feeding the world and to facilitating access to healthy, quality foods. They do this through their role as agricultural advisors, extension specialists, scientists, as leaders in marketing, as well as through their involvement in food processing, food distribution and the development of agriculture and food policies. The challenges they encounter are on both a local and global scale, including every level and possible point of connection in between these two extremes. The Congress aims to reflect on current and future agricultural issues and challenges, while focusing on the place of agronomists and agrologists at the front and centre of these issues.

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