

# Master Class Seed Technology

Wageningen, the Netherlands, 26 – 30 September 2016

## *Objectives of the master class*

The aim of the master class is to offer professional seed technologists the possibility for a further deepening, broadening and actualisation of their knowledge and expertise. Through an intensive in-depth seminar programme and informal discussions, along with several demonstrations of recent technological developments, participants will be challenged with the latest developments in seed research. The course will enhance participants to make strategic choices in seed technology research and development.

## *The Wageningen Seed Centre*

Farmers all over the world share one concern: how to get the best seed and planting material for next season's crops. Propagation material of high quality is a prerequisite for a crop that is superior in quantity and quality. Through fundamental and applied research [Wageningen Seed Centre](#) (WSC) develops expertise in all fields related to plant breeding, seed technology and other seed related issues. WSC is an alliance of seed experts from Plant Research International and Wageningen University.

WSC's academic and training staff have expertise in virtually every field of plant propagation, ranging from the basics of plant improvement to issues concerning seed legislation. WSC contributes to capacity building in the seed sector of many countries worldwide through education, research and execution of projects. WSC has a wide variety of clients: universities, national and international research institutes, non-governmental organisations and the private and public seed industry. WSC services include international courses, MSc courses, PhD programs, tailor-made courses, and research and project management.

## *Seminar programme*

Invited speakers and WSC staff will give seminars each day in the mornings and on two evenings. Themes of the seminar programme will be selected from topics including flowering, embryogenesis, seed expressed genes, dormancy and seed quality, seed stress tolerance, longevity and germination equations, germination markers, seed enhancement maturation sorting, gene expression, RNA-seq, seed proteomics, seed metabolomics, seed health, seed vigour, priming, molecular identification of seeds and variety protection, seed management and business, seed quality control and statistics, gene database mining, international seed supply systems and property rights.

## *Demonstrations and practical*

Participants will be involved in demonstrations and practical experiments in the afternoons. Techniques and methodologies include, seed drying, ethanol analysis, seed storage, chlorophyll sorting by laser induced fluorescence, spectral analysis of seeds and seedlings, designing a PCR-based assay and gene database mining, etc.

## *Target group of the master class*

The master class is designed for professional seed technologists at MSc or PhD level, or those who have acquired equivalent expertise through experience. Participants may be affiliated with industry, research institutes, seed quality laboratories, universities or other governmental institutions. The master class will be restricted to a maximum of 16 participants and a minimum of 8. The selection of participants will be made on the basis of their professional background and on the importance of the class programme for their own work. Applicants should have a good working knowledge of English.

### Dates

The master class will comprise 4 full days including two evening sessions. The program starts on Monday evening 26 September 2016 and ends on Friday afternoon 30 September. This intensive programme allows the participants to receive a maximum amount of information in a short time. The previous ten master classes were positively evaluated by the participants. Supervisors of the participants complimented WSC on the broadened view of their staff after attending the course. The course is preceding the Dutch Seed Symposium on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 in Wageningen.

### Organisation

#### Course co-ordinators:

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### Registration fee

The fee, including tuition fees and course materials, all lunches, coffee, tea and beverages, and Masterclass dinner but excluding hotel accommodation and travel to and from Wageningen, is € 2950 (excl. VAT). The participants will be accommodated in hotel Hof van Wageningen. Room rates (incl. breakfast) start at € 75. Lectures will be given at the same venue whereas demonstrations will be held in laboratories of Wageningen University and Plant Research International.

### Applications

Registration can be done through an e-mail to [wsc@wur.nl](mailto:wsc@wur.nl).

Those interested are requested to submit the registration with the following details: full name, organisation you work for, web site of the organisation, full address, phone number and source of funding for your participation.

A 50% advance payment must be made before 1 August 2016. Refunds, minus a € 100 processing fee, will be granted if the request is received 28 calendar days before the course begins. Requests of refunds must be received in a written form by email or fax.

Early registration is advised since the number of participants is limited to a maximum of 16. With previous courses we had to disappoint late registrants.

