



BGRI Borlaug Global Rust Initiative

July 2017

Call for Abstracts: 2018 BGRI Technical Conference



Present your wheat research at the 2018 BGRI Technical Workshop!

2018 Theme: **Delivering Genetic Gain in Wheat**
Deadline for Abstracts: **15 September 2017**

The 2018 BGRI Technical Workshop – held in Marrakech, Morocco, 14-17 April 2018 – will focus on wheat scientists' efforts to secure the world's wheat crop and manage disease vulnerability. It is an opportunity for the wheat community to exchange research results, network about opportunities to collaborate, and learn more about challenges facing wheat scientists and farmers.

Students are encouraged to submit research abstracts. Selected student authors will be invited to present their work at a plenary session of the workshop.

[Click here to read the abstract submission guidelines and to submit an abstract.](#)

[Click here to learn more about the BGRI conference.](#)

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Developing heat and drought tolerant wheat for Asia and Africa



Drs. Tadesse and Sherif undertaking germplasm evaluation at Sids station, Egypt.

To combat the effect of climate change and develop climate smart wheat technologies, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is conducting several projects in collaboration with international, regional and national partners.

With the current rate of climate change, it is anticipated that wheat production will set back in the Central and West Asia and North Africa (CWANA) region due to high temperature and drought, emergence of new pests and diseases as already exemplified

in the recent epidemics of stripe rust across the CWANA region and Ug99 epidemic in East African countries.

This approach has successfully identified climate resilient wheat varieties combining high yield potential, rust resistance, and heat and drought tolerance.

[Read more about ICARDA's efforts to improve wheat on the BGRI blog.](#)

Women in Triticum Spotlight: Chhavi Tiwari

"My postgraduate mentor Dr. Mahabalram inspired me to work in wheat science," said Chhavi Tiwari, 2014 WIT Early Career Award winner. "From my childhood I wanted to work for human welfare so I decided to take agriculture in my post-graduate studies and work on wheat. Wheat is a staple crop in my region and a large number of farmers depend on it as their primary source of food and economic stability."

Currently, Tiwari is working on breeding heat tolerant wheat plants with enhanced grain zinc content, as well as working on some training projects aiming to educate farmers on correct wheat breeding technique. Previously, she was a Senior Research Associate in HarvestPlus Wheat Biofortification Project at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India.

"The Eastern Gangetic plains region is a heat prone area, and malnutrition is a major problem for poor farmers and their families," Tiwari said. "So a project based on heat tolerance with enhanced zinc content in wheat will be helpful to address both."



Chhavi Tiwari, 2014 WIT Early Career Awardee

Awards and Opportunities at the 2018 BGRI Technical Workshop

Several awards are presented at the BGRI Technical Workshop to recognize the achievements of individuals and teams working in wheat research. **Nominations are open** for the following awards:

2018 Women in Triticum Early Career Award *Deadline 30 October 2017*

Nominate an early-career woman working in wheat (scientists ranging from advanced undergraduates to recent PhD graduates and post-doctoral fellows) for the WIT Early Career Award. Recipients will be supported to participate in the 2018 BGRI Technical Workshop and other professional development opportunities.

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-wit>

2018 Women in Triticum Mentor Award *Deadline 30 October 2017*

Nominate an outstanding mentor (male or female) of women working in triticum for the WIT Mentor award. The recipient will be recognized at the 2018 BGRI Technical Workshop.

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-wit-mentor>

2018 BGRI Gene Stewardship Award *Deadline 30 October 2017*

Nominate a researcher or team of researchers serving a national breeding program or other nationally based institution working on wheat.

<http://www.globalrust.org/awards/award-gene-stewardship>

Upcoming Events

American Phytopathological Society Meeting: Changing Landscapes of Plant Pathology

05-09 August 2017 (*San Antonio, Texas, USA*)

<http://www.apsnet.org/meet>

BGRI Technical Workshop

14-17 April 2018 (*Marrakesh, Morocco*)

Details and call for abstracts forthcoming.

Research Updates

An overview of genetic rust resistance: From broad to specific mechanisms

[\[LINK \]](#)

Discovery and characterization of two new stem rust resistance genes in *Aegilops sharonensis*

[\[LINK \]](#)

Physical mapping of DNA markers linked to stem rust resistance gene Sr47 in durum wheat

[\[LINK \]](#)

Genomic and pedigree-based prediction for leaf, stem, and stripe rust resistance in wheat

[\[LINK \]](#)

Contribute to the BGRI Newsletter and Social Media

If you have any news of interest to the BGRI community, please send us a message and we will try to include it in subsequent BGRI newsletters! We also publish and share stories on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. Use [@globalrust](#) to tag any contributions.

Events, career and educational opportunities, photos, and new publications are especially welcome.

Contact BGRI newsletter editor [Samantha Hautea](#) or [the BGRI](#).

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