

ADAPTATION OF WHEAT TO ABIOTIC STRESS

The Expert Working Group on the Adaptation of Wheat to Abiotic Stress aims to bring together and capitalise on existing national and international research and development activities to ensure that wheat yields continue to rise in the coming decades even under changing and challenging climatic and environmental conditions. It intends to complement, advance and accelerate global genetic gains on the adaptation of wheat to abiotic stress, with an initial focus on heat and drought. Anticipated deliverables include the delivery of new genetic materials as well as shared resources and databases on the responses of diverse wheat germplasm to abiotic stress.

Proposal

The [proposal](#) [1] to establish an Expert Working Group was submitted by Matthew Reynolds (CIMMYT) and Peter Langridge (University of Adelaide) and was endorsed by the Wheat Initiative Research Committee at its 3rd meeting on March 21, 2014.

Leadership

Co-Chairs: Fernanda Dreccer, Simon Griffiths
Vice-Chairs: Matthew Reynolds, Abraham Blum

Call for Experts

The call for experts will remain open during the EWG lifetime. Any expert wishing to participate in the Adaptation of Wheat to Abiotic Stress Expert Working Group should complete the application form and return it via email to wheat.initiative@julius-kuehn.de [2].

International Research Programme proposal

Together with the Heat and Drought Wheat Improvement Consortium (HeDWIC) the EWG submitted a [proposal](#) [3] to launch an international research programme to improve wheat Heat and Drought tolerance. The research plan is the result of consultation with over 370 wheat experts worldwide who responded to a call for innovative ideas in 2014. A Technical Advisory Committee comprising representatives of science and development funding agencies and major private sector entities evaluated the proposals. All members of the HeDWIC Technical Advisory Committee were invited to join the EWG.

Meetings

- [22 April, 2017, Vienna, Austria](#) [4] - [Meeting minutes](#) [5]
- 16 December 2016, Texcoco, Mexico - [Agenda and List of Participants](#) [6]
- 21 September 2015, Sydney , Australia

HeDWIC

The Heat and Drought Wheat Improvement Consortium (HeDWIC) is a network that facilitates global coordination of wheat research to adapt to a future with more severe weather extremes, specifically heat and drought. It delivers new technologies to wheat breeders worldwide via the International Wheat Improvement Network (IWIN), coordinated for more than half a century by the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center. Together, we are creating future wheat.

For more information, please visit hedwic.org [7]

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