

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

updated 28/11/2024



Building a resilient food system in the digital decade – challenges
for mycotoxin research and management

SUNDAY 6 APRIL 2025

18:30 – 20:00	Welcome reception – sponsored by R-Biopharm
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MONDAY 7 APRIL 2025

12:30 – 12:45	Opening Welcome to WMF meets Salzburg	EXHIBITION
12:45 – 14:00	Plenary session The role of digitalization and AI in mycotoxin management and research	
14:00 – 14:30	Interactive debate AI in mycotoxin research and management: Game changer of just hype?	
14:30 – 15:00	Networking break & poster viewing	
15:00 – 16:15	Plenary session Building resilience in regional food systems	
16:15 – 18:00	Speed presentations and company pitches (short presentations by selected posters presenters and by sponsors, respectively)	
18:00– 19:00	Wine & cheese tasting – sponsored by dsm-firmenich and Romer Labs	

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

08:30 – 10:30	Session 1 Mycotoxins in One Health perspective – Part 1	Session 2 Mycotoxin management and risk mitigation: current status, future opportunities	EXHIBITION
10:30 – 11:00	Networking break & poster viewing		
11:00 – 12:30	Session 3 Mycotoxins in One Health perspective – Part 2	Session 4 Mycotoxin control at farm level: towards precision agriculture	
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break & poster viewing		
12:45 – 13:45	Workshops		
14:00 – 15:15	Session 5 Environmental and social factors: impact on food system resilience in the context of mycotoxins	Session 6 Mycotoxin occurrence and control: the focus on fungi	
15:15 – 15:45	Networking break & poster viewing		
15:45 – 16:45	Session 7 Societal relevance and impact of mycotoxin research	Session 8 Mycotoxin detection: On-site agri-food applications	
16:45 – 17:45	WMF Young Scientists Forum sponsored by Selko		
19:30 – 22:30	Conference dinner (reservations only)		

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2025

09:00 – 10:30	Session 9 Late-breaking mycotoxin research	Session 10 Smart approaches for mycotoxin analysis	EXHIBITION
10:30 – 11:00	Networking break & poster viewing		
11:00 – 12:15	Plenary session Building a resilient food system in the digital decade – challenges for mycotoxin research and management		
12:15 – 12:30	Best Poster Award and Societal Impact Reward		
12:30 – 13:00	WMFmeetsSalzburg – Top Five Answers learned		
13:00	Closing		
13:30 – 14:30	General Assembly of the International Society for Mycotoxicology		

MONDAY 7 APRIL 2025

12:30 – 12:45

Welcome to WMFmeetsSalzburg – 15th conference of The World Mycotoxin Forum

General Conference Chairs:

Prof. Rudolf Krska, Department IFA-Tulln, BOKU Vienna, Austria

Prof. Chris Elliott, Institute for Global Food Security, Queen's University Belfast, UK

12:45 – 14:00

Plenary session: The role of digitalization and AI in mycotoxin research and management

- *The scAInce of chemical risk assessment in food*
Prof. Thomas Hartung, Bloomberg School of Public Health and Whiting School of Engineering, John Hopkins University, USA
- *How can AI help mycotoxin research and management?*
Prof. Ine van der Fels, Wageningen Food Safety Research and Business Economics Group, Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands
- *From data to detection: AI-driven mycotoxin detection*
Dr Alan Inglis, Hamilton Institute, Maynooth University, Ireland
- *Leveraging collective intelligence (=AI x human expertise) to enhance food safety in Africa*
Peter Schelstraete, Ubuntu, the Netherlands

14:00 – 14:30

Interactive debate: AI in mycotoxin research and management: game changer or just hype?

Moderators:

Prof. Rudolf Krska, Department IFA-Tulln, BOKU Vienna, Austria

Prof. Chris Elliott, Institute for Global Food Security, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Across the entire business spectrum, from SMEs to large multinational corporations, people are racking their brains to solve major puzzle pieces:

- *How to get AI work for you?*
- *Where do the biggest opportunities lie?*
- *What are the pitfalls and downsides of AI?*
- *When to say 'yes' (and 'no') to AI?*

The floor will be open for a lively discussion involving Prof. Thomas Hartung, Prof. Ine van der Fels, Dr Alan Inglis, Peter Schelstraete, and all participants.

MONDAY 7 APRIL 2025

15:00 – 16:15

Plenary session: Building resilience in regional food systems

- *Mycotoxin awareness: Paving the way to food safety and security in Central America*
Dr Andreia Bianchini, Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
- *Mycotoxins and climate change: challenges in South American countries for small farmers' production to increase resilience*
Dr Claudia Foerster, Institute of Agri-Food, Animal and Environmental Sciences, Universidad de O'Higgins, Chile
- *Focus on Africa:*
 - o *FS4Africa, addressing food safety challenges in the African informal sector*
Dr Titilayo Falade, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Nigeria
 - o *UP-RISE, an international project providing groundbreaking knowledge to understand mycotoxin contamination and to deliver solutions in Africa*
Prof. Sarah De Saeger, Centre of Excellence in Mycotoxicology and Public Health, Ghent University, Belgium
- *ASEAN mycotoxin issues in the challenging era of climate change*
Dr Awanwee Petchkongkaew, Thammasat University and International Joint Research Centre on Food Security, Thailand
- *An integrated approach to reducing mycotoxins in Irish cereal grains*
Prof. Fiona Doohan, School of Biology and Environmental Science, University College Dublin, Ireland

16:15 – 18:00

Plenary session: Speed presentations and company pitches

Short presentations by selected poster presenters to provide an overview of their research and by sponsors to inspire the audience to visit their booths, respectively.

18:00 – 19:00

Wine & cheese tasting

Sponsored by dsm-firmenich/Romer Labs

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

08:30 – 10:30

Session 1: Mycotoxins in one health perspective – Part 1

- Title to be announced
Dr Miguel A. Faria, REQUIMTE-LAQV, University of Porto, Portugal
- *Exploring links between multimycotoxin exposure and colorectal cancer through human biomonitoring and genotoxicity tests*
Yasmine Bader, Centre of Excellence in Mycotoxicology and Public Health, Ghent University, Belgium
- *Unravelling the synergistic impact of exposures to mycotoxins and Epstein Barr virus at early stages of Burkitt lymphomagenesis*
Dr Rita Khoueiry, Epigenomics and Mechanisms Branch, International Agency for Research on Cancer, World Health Organization, France
- *Uncovering the story of mycotoxin exposure in the UK: analysis of body fluids and hair*
Dr Esther Garcia-Cela, MycoLab, University of Hertfordshire, UK
- *Hazard assessment of mycotoxins for humans and animals: a European perspective in the light of climate change*
Dr Isabelle Oswald, ToxAlim, INRAE, France
- *Differential diagnosis of mycotoxicosis is key for effective risk management*
Dr Swamy Haladi, Selko, India
- Title and speaker to be announced
- Company pitches

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

08:30 – 10:30

Session 2: Mycotoxin management and risk mitigation – current status, future opportunities

- *Harnessing AI for enhanced mycotoxin risk management strategies*
Dr Gerd Schatzmayer, dsm-firmenich, Austria
- *Approach to facilitate prioritization of natural toxins for risk management*
Prof. Michele Suman, Barilla SpA and Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy
- *Left censoring approaches to estimate mycotoxin concentrations in raw materials*
Dr Biagio Zaffora, Nestlé, Switzerland
- *A novel mechanism for DON detoxification*
Dr Chris Garnham, London Research & Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Canada
- *Monitoring complementary in vitro and in vivo models is key for a proper anti-mycotoxin solution*
Dr Damien Prévéraud, Adisseo, France
- *Comparison of multi-strain and single strain biocontrol formulations for mitigation of maize aflatoxin contamination in the USA*
Dr Hillary Mehl, Pest Management & Biological Control Research Unit, ARS-USDA, USA
- *Integrating environmental factors and machine learning to predict Alternaria mycotoxin contamination in tomatoes*
Yimin Zhang, Business Economics Group, Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands
- Company pitches

10:30 – 11:00

Networking break

Poster viewing

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

11:00 – 12:30

Session 3: Mycotoxins in one health perspective – Part 2

- *Absolute oral bioavailability and quantitative toxicokinetics of Alternaria mycotoxins in pigs*
Prof. Siska Croubels, Department of Pathology, Pharmacology & Zoological Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium
- *One Health approach to mycotoxin surveillance: biomarkers of subclinical fumonisins, DON, and zearalenone exposure in poultry*
Dr Revathi Shanmugasundaram, U.S. National Poultry Research Center, ARS-USDA, USA
- *Dietary exposure to DON negatively impacts the production performance of laying hens*
Dr Regiane Santos, Schothorst Feed Research, the Netherlands
- *One Health approaches to mycotoxin research: Impact of beauvericin and enniatin B on aquatic ecosystems*
Dr Ana Juan-García, Laboratory of Food Chemistry and Toxicology, University of Valencia, Spain
- *Delving into the field microbiome for mycotoxin mitigation: A case study for the control of Fusarium head blight of cereals*
Dr Adeline Picot, Ecole Supérieure d'Ingénieurs en Agroalimentaire de Bretagne atlantique, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, France
- Company pitches

11:00 – 12:30

Session 4: Mycotoxin control at farm level – towards precision agriculture

- *Predicting the next outbreak: Models for Fusarium head blight and deoxynivalenol in wheat*
Dr Erick DeWolf, Department of Plant Pathology, Kansas State University, USA
- *The potential of spectroscopy techniques for in situ measurement and mapping of FHB and DON in cereal crops*
Prof. Abdul Mouazen, Department of Environment, Ghent University, Belgium
- *Detection of FHB in winter wheat fields using imaging spectroscopy and deep learning*
Xinxin Wang, Wageningen Food Safety Research, the Netherlands
- *Rapid detection of plant pathogens and fungicide sensitivity to control mycotoxin contamination*
Dr Kevin King, Protecting Crops and the Environment Division, Rothamsted Research, UK
- *The trilogy in mycotoxin management – prediction, detection, and interpretation*
Carrie Maune, Trilogy Analytical Laboratory, USA
- Company pitches

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch break
Poster viewing

12:45 – 13:45

Workshops

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

14:00 – 15:15

Session 5: Environmental and social factors – impact on food system resilience in the context of mycotoxins

- *Beyond farm to table: When climate and conflict add a risky flavour to your food*
Dr Bert Popping, FOCOS, Germany
- *Hidden yet far-reaching costs of conflict: Aggravated mycotoxin threats*
Dr Alejandro Ortega-Beltran, Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Nigeria
- *Mycotoxin management to face climate change impact on food safety and human health, the match*
Prof. Paola Battilani, Department of Sustainable Crop Production, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy
- *Connection between weather during the growing season and levels of Fusarium mycotoxins in Norway*
Dr Axel Bernhoft, Norwegian Veterinary Institute, Norway
- Title and speaker to be announced

14:00 – 15:15

Session 6: Mycotoxin occurrence and control – the focus on fungi

- *Scope of taxonomic boundaries: from Fusarium genus to populations*
Dr Tapani Yli-Mattila, Department of Life Technologies, University of Turku, Finland
- *Is fumonisin less of a risk in the Eastern Cape? Investigating Fusarium diversity and mycotoxin prevalence in Eastern Cape South African maize*
Dr Neriman Yilmaz, Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology, University of Pretoria, South Africa
- *Mycobiota occurrence and related mycotoxin risk on artisan Italian cheese aged in natural environments: prevention and control strategies*
Dr Antonia Susca, Institute of Sciences of Food Production, National Research Council, Italy
- *Host induced gene silencing in reducing pre- and post-harvest aflatoxin contamination in maize*
Prof. Zhi-Yan Chen, Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, USA
- Title and speaker to be announced

15:15 – 15:45

Networking break

Poster viewing

TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2025

15:45 – 16:45

Session 7: Societal relevance and impact of mycotoxin research

At the same time as the productivity of researchers have become more formalized and institutionalized with increasing emphasis on counting publications in high-ranking journals, citations, h-index, and so on, there is an increased demand on researchers to contribute to what is referred to as societal value, societal relevance, public value, societal impact, and/or similar phenomena.

At the end of the conference, an outstanding presentation considering the societal relevance and impact of the research, will be awarded.

- *Mycotoxin in Africa: a research journey towards achieving food safety and nutrition security*
Dr Carla Cervini, Centre for Soil, Agrifood and Biosciences, Cranfield University, UK
- *A survey of mycotoxins and other natural contaminants in plant-based alternatives for meat and dairy products*
Dr Michael Sulyok, Department IFA-Tulln, BOKU Vienna, Austria
- Title and speaker to be announced
- Title and speaker to be announced
- Title and speaker to be announced

15:45 – 16:45

Session 8: Mycotoxin detection – on-site agri-food applications

- *A welcome sight: optical methods to predict mycotoxin content*
Dr Chris Maragos, Mycotoxin Prevention and Applied Microbiology Research, ARS-USDA, USA
- *Electroanalytical quantification of mycotoxins in grain – towards rapid on-farm detection of contaminants*
Dr Sabine Kuss, University of Manitoba, Canada
- Title and speaker to be announced
- Title and speaker to be announced

16:45 – 17:45

WMF Young Scientists Forum

Sponsored by Selko

Selko, the feed additive brand of Nutreco, is excited to host the third edition of this lively gathering. We eagerly anticipate the insights and inspiration from young researchers, scientists, and students as they tackle both new and ongoing mycotoxin challenges worldwide. While the main theme and discussion points are yet to be announced, we look forward to creating connections between new and seasoned professionals and learning from one another. We warmly invite everyone, whether young in age or young at heart, to join our informal discussions.

19:30 – 22:30

Conference dinner

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2025

09:00 – 10:30

Session 9: Late-breaking mycotoxin research

Highly significant and timely findings in mycotoxin research that were not available by the regular abstract submission deadline (1 July 2024) of the 15th conference of The World Mycotoxin Forum

- *Towards resilience of the Robusta coffee production: an Ivorian case study*
Dr Carol Verheecke-Vaessen, Centre for Soil, Agrifood and Biosciences, Cranfield University, UK
- *Citrinin in human urine and blood – sources of exposure and impact of food processing*
Dr Benedikt Cramer, Institute for Food Chemistry, Universität Münster, Germany
- Title to be announced
Dr Octavian Mihalache, Department of Food and Drug, University of Parma, Italy
- Title and speaker to be announced
- Title and speaker to be announced
- Title and speaker to be announced

09:00 – 10:30

Session 10: Smart approaches for mycotoxin analysis

- *Advances in analysis and detection of mycotoxins in dryland crops at the joint FAO/IAEA centre's Food Safety and Control Laboratory*
Dr Christina Vlachou, Joint FAO/IAEA Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, Austria
- *Automation in mycotoxins analysis: The Wizard of Oz journey from innovation to harmonized data collection*
Giulia Rosar, Gold Standard Diagnostics, Italy
- *Metabolism of multiple mycotoxins by black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) using an optimized high-throughput LC-MS/MS method*
Dr Siegrid De Baere, Department of Pathology, Pharmacology & Zoological Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium
- *Fate of mycotoxins during gluten-free pasta processing: Untargeted ¹³C labelling LC-HRMS based approach*
Eleonora Rollo, Barilla / University of Parma, Italy and Dr Alexandra Schamann, FFoQSI, Austria
- Title to be announced
Irene Piccici / Dr Guillem Campmajò-Galvan, Department of Food and Drug, University of Parma, Italy
- *A high throughput phenotyping platform for cereal research and breeding programs to identify Fusarium-damaged kernels and Fusarium-produced mycotoxins*
Dr Lipu Wang, Department of Plant Sciences/Crop Development Centre, University of Saskatchewan, Canada

10:30 Networking break
Poster viewing

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2025

11:00 – 12:15

Plenary session: Building a resilient food system in the digital decade – challenges for mycotoxin management and research

- The Naresh Magan Lecture Award
Title and speaker to be announced
- *A byte against blight – AI's impact on mycotoxins*
Ronald Niemeijer, R-Biopharm, Germany
- *Prioritizing candidates for gene editing to develop mycotoxin resistance in maize*
Dr Kanniah Rajasekaran, Food and Feed Safety Research, ARS-USDA, USA
- *Tech-powered biosolutions: revolutionizing crop protection using robots, AI and thousands of fungi*
Dr Johan Vormsborg Christiansen, Mycoverse, Denmark
- Title and speaker to be announced

12:15 **Best Poster Award and Societal Impact Reward**

To be presented by a Cargill representative

12:30 **Top Five Answers Learned**

Prof. Rudolf Krska, Department IFA-Tulln, BOKU Vienna, Austria

Prof. Chris Elliott, Institute for Global Food Security, Queen's University Belfast, UK

13:00 **Closing of WMFmeetsSalzburg**

Take your packed lunch to eat along the way!

13:30 – 14:30

General Assembly of the International Society for Mycotoxicology

The International Society for Mycotoxicology (ISM) aims to increase scientific knowledge concerning biology, chemistry and any sciences/disciplines related to mycotoxins and toxigenic fungi through membership networking, scientific meetings, symposia, discussions, technical courses and publications.

ISM's General Assembly is open to all participants of WMFmeetsSalzburg.