

# ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

*President: Stuart Knight*



## Intercropping for sustainability Research developments and their application **ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS**



**A two-day conference at  
University of Reading, UK  
19–20 January 2021**

Photograph by kind permission Prof. Rob Brooker The James Hutton Institute, Dundee, UK

Association of Applied Biologists, Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK

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# Intercropping for sustainability

19 – 20 January 2021 in University of Reading, UK

(BASIS Points will be applied for)

Increasing diversity within agricultural systems by intercropping offers a realistic and practical opportunity to enhance and stabilise crop yields and produce food, feed and fuel with fewer inputs. As environmental conditions become more variable, diversifying cropping systems can also reduce production risks. The Horizon 2020-funded projects [DIVERSify](#) and [ReMIX](#), alongside other projects, are conducting research trials as well as working with farmers and other agricultural stakeholders across Europe and internationally to design, test and provide practical solutions for multi-species intercropping. It is timely to bring together the intercropping community to showcase the latest findings on intercropping research from the lab and the field and encourage debate on uptake and best practice.

[DIVERSify](#) and [ReMIX](#) are working with other Horizon 2020-funded projects in the Crop Diversification Cluster to transfer project findings to scientists, farmers, advisers, industry and policy makers (see [www.cropdiversification.eu](http://www.cropdiversification.eu) for information about other joint events).

This Congress will cover topics that range from basic research to practical application of intercrops.

## Potential sessions include:

- Species combinations, crop varieties and sowing arrangements that optimise agronomic efficiency
- New approaches to investigate the mechanisms that underpin the benefits of crop species mixtures
- Environmental benefits of intercropping (e.g. for soil, water, biodiversity) and delivery of ecosystem services
- Crop diversity for resilience under a changing climate
- Nutrient and weed/pest/disease management with intercropping
- Intercropping as part of a sustainable farming system, including agroforestry
- Timings of management operations and mechanical innovations
- Novel practical tools, including modelling and decision-aids, for scientists, agronomists, farmers and breeders for optimising multi-species cropping.

The Congress aims to attract scientists and agricultural stakeholders from diverse farming systems and regions to obtain feedback on research findings and industry-relevant tools, discuss intercropping uptake and practical application, and guide future developments in intercropping research. The meeting will include scientific sessions, workshops and panel debates co-organised with agricultural stakeholders to discuss the practical adoption of intercropping, applying research findings, and new and emerging tools and kit.

## *Invited speakers include:*

**Dr Caroline Drummond MBE** (Linking Environment and Farming, UK)

will chair a science-farmer forum/Q&A on intercropping practices

**Professor Maria Finckh** (University of Kassel, Germany)

**Professor Bernhard Schmid** (University Of Zürich, Switzerland)

**Professor John Vandermeer** (Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, USA)

***Offers in the form of a short summary/abstract should be submitted by 01 June 2020.***

Accepted papers/posters will be published in the *Aspects of Applied Biology* series and available as part of the conference pack. Primary authors of accepted papers will be notified by session organisers by 30 June 2020 and sent instructions for the papers (6–8 pages for platform and 2–6 pages for poster presentations). You can submit your offer using the attached form or online at our web site: <http://www.aab.org.uk>

Descriptions of papers can be submitted by mailing the attached sheet to the AAB Office, or online via our web site at <http://www.aab.org.uk>. Hover over ‘Conferences’ in the main menu and click on ‘Submit an Abstract’ from the drop-down list. This will take you to our Abstract Submission form where you can enter your contact details and upload your abstract as a word document. Please indicate if your offer is for a poster or a platform presentation. Alternatively, you can send your abstract to John Andrews at the AAB Office: [john@aab.org.uk](mailto:john@aab.org.uk)

**Deadline for submission of offers is 01 June 2020**

# Intercropping for sustainability

## Research developments and their application

**On 19–20 January 2021  
at University of Reading, UK**

(BASIS Points will be applied for)

(Please tick appropriate boxes)

Please send me further details and booking forms when they become available  
I am not an AAB member (Members will receive this information automatically)

I wish to offer a paper/poster presentation paper as detailed below (please indicate which)

I wish to have a commercial exhibit at the conference

I would be interested in sponsoring a speaker, conference proceedings or hospitality  
(please call Carol Millman +44 (0)2476 999484)

SURNAME: .....INITIALS:.....

TITLE (Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms or other): .....

MAILING ADDRESS: .....

.....POST CODE: .....

Tel No: ..... Fax No:..... E-mail:.....

TITLE OF PAPER/POSTER: .....

OUTLINE OF CONTENTS or ABSTRACT ON SEPARATE PAGE: .....

Please return to:

Intercropping for sustainability

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# AAB

## FORWARD CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### 2020

**POSTPONED  
UNTIL  
SEPTEMBER  
2021 DUE TO  
COVID-19**

#### **Advances in Legume Science and Practice 2**

Ecole Supérieure d'Agriculture (ESA) Angers, France  
(Cropping and the Environment group)

28-29 October

#### **Trees for the Future - Diversity and complexity for resilience and carbon storage**

University of Birmingham, UK

11-13 November

#### **Shaping the Future for Pollinators: Innovations in Farmed Landscapes**

Copthorne Hotel, Slough, UK  
(Cropping and the Environment group/University of Reading/British Ecological Society/Royal Entomological Society)

19-20 November

#### **Advances in Biological Control and IPM 2020**

Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, Lincs  
(Biocontrol & IPM group)

15 December

#### **Advances in Nematology 2020**

Linnean Society, London  
(Nematology group)

### 2021

19-20 January

#### **Intercropping for sustainability**

University of Reading, UK  
(Cropping and the Environment group)

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