ISSCT
13th Germplasm & Breeding / 10th Molecular Biology Workshop
8-12 July 2024
Coimbatore, India

First Announcement

Theme



Breeding, Biotechnology and Germplasm Utilization for Developing Climate-Smart and Resource-Efficient Sugarcane Varieties



Sessions:

- Sugarcane genetic resources
- Pre-breeding for enhancing the gene pool
- Strategies and accomplishments in developing climate-smart sugarcane
- Classical and modern selection strategies for accelerated and precision breeding
- Biotechnological interventions to develop climate-resilient sugarcane varieties
- Genetic modification for novel trait integration
- Improving resource-use efficiency in sugarcane

Key Dates:

1 January 2024: Abstract submission and registration open

29 February 2024: Deadline for abstract submissions (oral presentations and posters)

https://sugarcane.icar.gov.in

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First Announcement
The ISSCT Germplasm & Breeding/Molecular Biology Workshop will be hosted by the ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore, India and the Society for Sugarcane Research and Development (SSRD), Coimbatore, India during 8-12, July 2024.

Host Institution
The ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding institute (ICAR-SBI), Coimbatore, India is one of the oldest and premier sugarcane research institutes worldwide, formally established in 1912 to breed superior sugarcane varieties/genotypes for tropical and subtropical India. The Institute also conducts basic, applied and strategic research in crop improvement, protection and production as well as in social sciences for profitable and sustainable sugarcane agriculture. The institute has developed varieties cultivated in more than 80% of the sugarcane area in India. Co canes are grown in 28 other countries in the world. ICAR-SBI is known for its wonder canes that has driven the sugar revolution since 1918 and transformed India into a sugar-surplus country. During 2022, India exported 11 million tonnes of sugar and contributed significantly to bioethanol production.

In order to make crop adaptation feasible in the era of changing climate, it is indispensable to breed climate-smart crop plants with diverse genetic backgrounds and to utilize crop wild relatives (CWR) for developing varieties tolerant to biotic and abiotic stresses. ICAR-SBI holds the world's largest sugarcane germplasm and continues to enrich its collection and utilization through pre-breeding activities.

This ISSCT workshop will serve as a platform for presenting and debating key issues and strategies relevant for increasing the yield and stability of future sugarcane to breed stress-specific and resource-efficient varieties through conventional and molecular approaches.

Language
The workshop will be conducted in English.

Workshop format
The scientific programme will comprise six workshop sessions, each of which will comprise of selected oral and poster presentations. During the course of the workshop,

there will be a one-day field trip and delegates will have the opportunity to see the major sugarcane varieties cultivated in the region. Abstracts for all scientific contributions, oral presentations and posters, will be distributed to participants during the workshop and published on the ISSCT website.

Presentations at workshops will not be published. Authors are encouraged to submit papers and posters for consideration for the August 2025 ISSCT Congress – submit outlines to issct.editor@bigpond.com / peter.allsopp0351@gmail.com by 30 August 2024.

Important dates

1 January 2024	**Abstract submission and registration open**
29 February 2024	Deadline for abstract submission (oral presentations and posters)
30 March 2024	Notification of acceptance of oral presentations and posters
7June 2024	Deadline for workshop registration
8 July 2024	Evening welcome reception
8-12 July 2024	Workshop

Visas

All foreign nationals entering India are required to possess a valid international travel document in the form of a national passport with a valid visa obtained from an Indian Mission or Post abroad. It is important that participants check the link for information of entry visas and requirements https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/index.html.

Registration cost

Workshop registration is US$ 300 per participant. For Indian delegates, the registration fee is Rs 12000/- and Rs. 10000/- for members of SSRD. All workshop participants must be ISSCT members for 2023-2025.

ISSCT membership dues are US$150 and may be settled through the online payment system at https://members.issct.org/appform/issct_colombia_2025.aspx or visit the ISSCT website at https://issct.org/membership/

Registration fee covers the local transport, welcome dinner, lunch, refreshments and workshop kit but does not include accommodation.

Touristic activities

Coimbatore is one of the metropolitan cities in South India with a population of more than 2.0 million and is well connected by air, rail and road. The international airport in Coimbatore is 10 minutes' drive (8.9 km) from the workshop venue (Hotel The Residency Towers). It takes about 30 minutes to reach railway station and bus terminal. The famous hill stations and wild life sanctuaries such as Ooty (90 km), Valparai (110 km), Kodaikanal (180 km), Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (130 km) and Anamalai Tiger Reserve (100 km) are ideal picnic spots. Important tourist destinations such as Madurai, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Rameshwaram and Guruvayur are within 400 km radius from Coimbatore. The tourists will experience the brilliance of architectural marvels of Dravidian time. The city is also a home of Yoga, known for inner engineering. A plethora of ancient monuments and temples are centres of artistic and cultural heritage that attracts history lovers from all over. The adjacent state of Kerala also has many destinations for the tourists. For more information please visit: http://www.tamilnadutourism.org/; https://www.keralatourism.org/

Venue

The workshop will be held at The Residency Towers, Coimbatore. The participants of the workshop can see the facilities available at the Hotel through the website at https://www.theresidency.com/towers-coimbatore/index.html; **Phone:** +91 422 224 1414 | +91 97 8777 7770

The rates for executive Deluxe room with complimentary breakfast is Rs.5000+Tax.
A list of hotels nearby the workshop venue will be provided in future announcements.

Contact information

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More information at : **http://sugarcane.icar.gov.in**