



OryzaNet

aab

ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

# International Symposium on Rice Functional Genomics

September 8<sup>th</sup>- 11<sup>th</sup> 2026  
The Royal Society, London



ISRFG  
'26

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Meeting organised by **Association of Applied Biologists**  
Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF, UK  
Registered Charity No. 1195899; <http://www.aab.org.uk>

# International Symposium on Rice Functional Genomics 2026

## Preliminary Programme

Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> 2026

0930-0945 **Welcome**

Ari Sadanandom and Erik Murchie

0945-1030 **Opening Keynote**

**Adam Price**, Aberdeen University, UK

1030-1100 *Break*

1100-1230 **Plenary session 1: Future proofing rice**

1100-1130 **Qifa Zhang**, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan, China

1130-1200 **Amelia Henry**, CIRAD, France

1200-1230 **Rod Wing**, University of Arizona, USA

1230-1330 *Lunch*

## Concurrent Sessions

### Main Auditorium

1330-1500 **CS1: Climate resilience**

1300-1400 **Ian Dodd**, Lancaster University, UK

1400-1430 **Rory Hornby**, Alora, UK

1430-1500 Talks selected from submissions

## Wolfson Room I

- 1330-1500 **CS2: AI and Rice Research**
- 1330-1400 **Andy Jones**, University of Liverpool, UK
- 1400-1430 **Jorge Alvarez-Jarreta**, Ensembl UK
- 1430-1500 **David Emms**, Instadeep, UK

## Wolfson Room II

- 1330-1500 **CS3: Breeding and Gene Editing**
- 1330-1500 Talks selected from submissions

1500-1530 *Break*

1530-1700 **Main Auditorium: Oryzanet Launch**

1530-1600 **Erik Murchie**, University of Nottingham, UK

1600-1700 *Wine reception followed by social evening at external location*

## Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> 2026

0800-0900 **Registration and Poster Hanging**

0900-1030 **Plenary session 2: Global Methane Hub Session: Mitigating Methane Production and Climate Change**

0900-0930 **Peter Eastmond**, Rothamsted Research, UK

0930-1000 **Jitender Giri**, National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi, India

1000-1030 **Nguyen Thi Lang**, High Agricultural Technology Research Institute for Mekong Delta, Vietnam

1030-1100 *Break*

1100-1230 **Plenary session 3: Breeding and editing**



- 1100-1130 **Ashwani Pareek**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India
- 1130-1200 **Negussie Zenna**, AfricaRice
- 1200-1230 Talks selected from submissions
- 1230-1300 Short Poster talks
- 1300-1400 *Lunch*

## Concurrent Sessions

### Main Auditorium

- 1400-1530 **CS4: Functional genomics**
- 1400-1430 **Xuewei Chen**, Sichuan Agricultural University, China
- 1430-1500 **Nelson Saibo**, Institute of Chemical and Biological Technology (ITQB), Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal
- 1500-1530 **Emmanuel Guiderdoni**, CIRAD, University of Montpellier, France

### Wolfson Room I

- 1400-1530 **CS5: Quality and nutrients**
- 1400-1430 **Adriana Botes**, Azotic, UK
- 1430-1530 Talks selected from submissions

### Wolfson Room II

- 1400-1530 **CS6: Bioinformatics and AI**
- 1400-1530 Talks selected from submissions

1530-1600 *Break*

## Concurrent Sessions

### Main Auditorium

- 1600-1730      **CS7: Molecular and Cell Biology in Rice**  
1600-1630      **Julian Hibberd**, Cambridge University, UK  
1630-1730      Talks selected from submissions

### Wolfson Room I

- 1600-1730      **CS8: Biotic Stress**  
1600-1630      **Siwaret Arikrit**, Kasetsart University, Thailand  
1630-1700      **Sneh Pareek**, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and  
Biotechnology (ICGEB), New Delhi,  
1700-1730      Talks selected from submissions

### Wolfson Room II

- 1600-1730      **CS9: Response to Abiotic Stress**  
1600-1730      Talks selected from submissions

1730-2000 Tours of The Royal Society, Evening Poster Session and Drinks Reception

# Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> 2026

0800-0900 **Registration Open**

0900-1030 **Emerging Talent Plenary session I**

0900-0930 **Pallavi Singh**, University of Essex, UK

0930-1000 **Alexandra Gibbs**, University of Nottingham, UK

1000-1030 Talks selected from submissions

1030-1100 *Break*

1100-1230 **Emerging Talent Plenary session 2**

1100-1130 **Bipin Pandey**, University of Nottingham, UK

1130-1200 **Ke Li**, University of Exeter, UK

1200-1230 Talks selected from submissions

1230-1330 *Lunch*

1300-1500 **Plenary session 4: Biotic stress**

1330-1400 **Joao Correa**, Tropic Biosciences, UK

1400-1430 Invited Speaker, TBC

1430-1500 Talks selected from submissions

1500-1530 *Break*

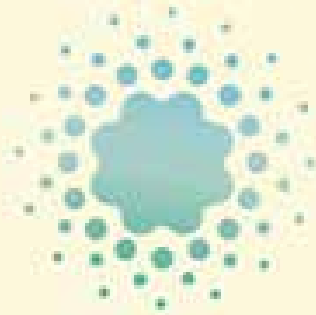
1530-1615 **Closing Keynote**

**Julie Gray**, University of Sheffield, UK

1615-1630 **Closing Ceremony and Prizes**

# Friday September 11<sup>th</sup> 2026

1000-1600 **Visit to Kew Gardens**



Global  
Methane  
Hub

Plant  
Biotechnology  
Journal



New  
Phytologist



PHYTOAIB