

Monday, June 23, 2025							
08:00 AM		Local Tour of the Okanagan Valley   Hosts L. Da Ros, K. Hannam, M. Sharifi (full day; tickets required)				Buses depart from and return to Parking Lot F	
03:00 PM		Conference Registration   Poster & Exhibitor Setup				EME Mezzanine	
05:00 PM		Welcome Reception & Mixer				ADM 121 Sunroom	
Tuesday, June 24, 2025							
08:00 AM		Conference Registration   Poster & Exhibitor Setup				EME Mezzanine	
Plenary Session		COM 201 Lecture Theatre					
08:30 AM		Opening Remarks - <b>S. Castellarin &amp; K. Liu</b> , Conference Chairs; Welcomes – <b>R. Sadiq</b> , UBC Provost and Vice-President Academic; <b>R. El Hafid</b> , AAFC Director and Hort. Portfolio Lead					
09:00 AM		Keynote Speakers - <b>J. Whalen</b>   A soil-centric approach to sustaining resilient agriculture in Canada (45 min); <b>S. Shirlcliffe</b>   Digital agriculture tools for agronomy and crop science (45 min)					
10:30 AM		Morning Break   <i>Sponsored by UBC Irving K Barber Faculty of Science</i>				EME Mezzanine	
1.1. Soil BMPs in agricultural systems		1.2. System resilience in horticultural crops		1.3. Sustainable high-value berry crops		1.4. Mitigating abiotic and biotic stress	
Chair L. Van Eerd   EME 0050		K. Hannam & A. Hammermeister   EME 1121		Chairs I. Willick & Y. Zheng   EME 1202		Chair Dr. Hao Xu   EME 2111	
11:00	<u>K. Schneider</u>   The role of grazing livestock in supporting sustainable soil	11:00	A. Hammermeister   Organic Science	11:00	Y. Zheng   Controlled environment strawberry production	11:00	T. Sahota   Effect of fungicides on disease and yield of spring cereals
		11:10	<u>L. Erland</u>   Predicted impacts of future climate scenarios on cranberry	11:15	I. Willick   Silicon amendments may improve wine grape tolerance	11:15	*T. Simbo   Interaction of drought and plant growth regulators in oat varieties
11:30	T. Fonville   Saving Soils: Improving soils through fall-seeded cash and cover crops	11:30	K. Hannam   Irrigation for climate resilience in tree fruit		11:30	L. Benkrima   Can vertical farming contribute to climate-resilient ag.?	11:25
		11:40	*J. Brown   Prioritizing beneficial management practices in tree fruit hort.	11:35		*W. Short   Developing artificial and natural coatings for freezing avoidance	
11:45	W. Allan   Advancing agricultural testing with combustion analysis	11:50	<u>H. Friesen</u>   The effects of management and vegetation complexity on spiders	11:45	E.M. Gerbrandt   Collaborative research initiatives for the Canadian berry sector	11:45	*S. Pariyar   Zeolite-based seed coating
12:00 PM		Lunch		General - ADM 121 Sunroom   CSA Executive – EME 2111			
2.1. Agricultural sustainability		2.2. Genetics & breeding in wheat/cereals		2.3. Innovation from genome to phenome		2.4. Soil BMPs in agricultural systems	
Chair K. Liu   EME 0050		Chairs G. Singh Brar & H. Randhawa   EME 1121		Chair L. Da Ros   EME 1202		Chair Dr. Y. Jiang   EME 2111	
01:30	<u>M. Bourgault</u>   Ag. Sustainability: What does it mean for Western producers?	01:30	<u>D. Rodriguez</u>   The plasticity of root traits and their effects on crop yield	01:30	<u>A. Svara</u>   Malus genomic resources for trait and candidate gene discovery	01:30	Y. Jiang   Effect of enhanced efficiency nitrogen fertilizers on grain corn
01:50	K. Liu   Diversifying rotations enhance the resilience of cropping systems	01:50	G. Singh Brar   Utilizing Watkins wheat landrace diversity in breeding	01:50	L. Da Ros   Refining of reference genome assemblies in sweet cherry	01:40	Y. Peng   Assessing long-term cover cropping effect on in-season nitrogen
02:00	T. Zhang   Agronomic performance of long-term integrated conservation	02:00	H. Randhawa   Statistical and machine learning models for leaf spot resistance	02:00	M. Schuetz   Development a dedicated Hop genotyping platform	01:50	P. Rathor   Humalite enhances soil N
02:10	M. Khakbazan   Profitability of specialty crops in diversified crop rotations	02:10	A. Burt   Dissecting wheat yield stability: QTL mapping and G×E	02:10	M. Jafari   Ploidy engineering in cannabis	02:00	N. Ziadi   Impacts of BMPs on crop yield and soil nutrients availability
02:20	J. Larsen   Prospects for double cropping soybeans in Ontario	02:20	D. Cattani   Flowering in intermediate wheatgrass	02:20	Z. Migicovsky   Genome-wide associations for fruit quality in apple	02:10	*C. Potter   Envisioning change for BMP adoption in Ontario potatoes
02:30	*P. Upretree   Seed characteristics of lentils for successful late fall seeding	02:30	*S. Bagale   The impact of breeding selection on cereal root traits over time	02:30	*C. Baldassi   Genome-wide associations of color and anthocyanin in raspberry	02:20	*D. Ferland   Improved nitrogen fertilizer mgmt. reduces nitrous oxide
02:40	*J. Odiketa   Effect of cover cropping on wheat and canola production	02:40	*P. Kandpal   Short Interspersed Nuclear Element: Potential marker	02:40	*M.Z. Fenniri   Chemically profiling the colour polymorphism in salmonberries	02:30	*H. Aiye   Mechanistic analysis of microbe-mediated storage of carbon
02:50	*S. Tandekar   Compatibility of cicer milkvetch with alfalfa	02:50	*J.A. Hubensky   High spikelet number gene in wild wheat delays flowering	02:50	M. Bejaei   Optimizing apple juiciness measurement	02:40	*K.R. Beukeboom   Phosphorus in an Ontario perennial forage stand
						02:50	*B. Liu   Nitrification inhibitor affects greenhouse gas emissions in barley
03:00 PM		Afternoon Break   <i>Sponsored by TerraLink Horticulture</i>				EME Mezzanine	
03:30 PM		Poster Session - All Poster Presenters (2.5 h)				EME Mezzanine	
06:00 PM		Students Only Social Event - Games, Prizes, Cash Bar & Small Bites   Hosts C. Baldassi, J. Irvine, J. Hubensky				Nechako Residence Common Room	
Wednesday, June 25, 2025							
Titles abbreviated; <u>Underline indicates invited speaker</u> ; *Asterisk indicates student competition presenter							
Plenary Session							
COM 201 Lecture Theatre							
08:30 AM		Welcome & Housekeeping - S. Castellarin & K. Liu; <b>Keynote Speaker - D. Michaud</b>   Plant cystatins as molecular triggers of drought resilience and tuber yield in potato (45 min)					
09:30 AM		Plenary Speakers - <b>M. Todesco</b>   Per Aspera Ad Aster: Wild relatives to improve sunflower (30 min); <b>D. Torkamaneh</b>   Not Just a High—A higher understanding of Cannabis (30 min)					
10:30 AM		Morning Break   <i>Sponsored by Western Grains Research Foundation</i>				EME Mezzanine	
3.1. Crop adaptation for system resilience		3.2. Innovation from genome to phenome		3.3. Environmental stress in horticulture		3.4. Optimizing nutrient inputs and cycling	
Chair B-L Ma   EME 1101		Chair B. Amyotte   EME 2111		Chairs J. Wahab & L. Abbey   EME 2181		Chair J. Nasielski   EME 1151	
11:00	<u>F.Dreecer</u>   Opportunities for adaptation strategies for wheat and chickpea	11:00	<u>C. Mason</u>   Breeding pool and market class differentiation in sunflower	11:00	J. Wahab   Dry onion cultivars for irrigated production in Saskatchewan	11:00	J. Nasielski   Economic vs. Environmental best management practices for N in corn
11:20	K. Liu   Early seeding boosts organic wheat production in the semi-arid prairies	11:20	*V. Fetterley   Image-based phenotyping pipeline for Cannabis	11:10	L. Abbey   Mugwort response to temp.	11:10	M. St. Luce   Impact of minor oilseed crops on productivity and N use efficiency
11:30	M. Farzand   Evaluation of spring seeded winter cereals as drought mitigation	11:30	*M. Peterson   Deciphering terpenoid biosynthesis in grapevine	11:20	*N. Wilson   Photosynthetic responses to heat stress by grapevine varieties	11:20	T. Sahota   Response of canola to high N
11:40	R. Pudasaini   Potential of short euration millets as a post-winter wheat crop	11:40	H.P.V. Rupasinghe   Functional food ingredients from wild blueberries	11:30	*S. Davis   Responses of grapevine to heat and drought	11:30	G. Singh   N fert. of irrigated dry bean
11:50	M. Farzand   Performance evaluation of two-row and six-row forage barley mixes	11:50	B. Fofana   Genome-wide associations for common scab in diploid potatoes	11:40	*S.T. Bristow   Understanding water needs of EFB-resistant hazelnuts	11:40	*T.C. Peterson   Identifying sod-seeding rates of legumes for rejuvenating pasture
				11:50	*I.N. Ezeh   Robot vs. Tractor: Weed management in beet and carrot fields	11:50	*N.S. Johnson   Impacts of nitrification inhibitor eNtrench on barlev
12:00 PM		Lunch		ADM 121 Sunroom			
4.1. Expanding trait innovation from genome to phenome   Chair L. Da Ros   EME 2111				4.2 CSA Annual General Meeting		4.3 CSHS Annual Gen. Meeting	
01:30 J.O. MacKenzie   Mapping and characterization of a novel powdery mildew resistance locus (PM2) in Cannabis sativa L.				EME 1101   01:30-03:00 PM		EME 2181   01:30-03:00 PM	
01:45 J. Subramanian   Black knot in plums: Addressing resistance using a multi-omic approach				CSA executives, current & prospective members		CSA executives, current & prospective members	
02:00 M. Hesami   Overcoming recalcitrance in Cannabis somatic embryogenesis				Includes CSA Best Paper Award Talk – B. Beres   Integrating enhanced efficiency fertilizers and nitrogen rates to improve red spring wheat			
02:15 A.I. Moalafi   Preliminary study on pre-breeding and selection of high performing okra							
02:30 *M. Pepe   Revolutionizing the production of psychoactive organisms							
03:00 PM Afternoon Break   <i>Sponsored by University of Saskatchewan Crop Development Centre</i>							
5.1. Crop and nutrient management		5.2. Hort. crop resilience to stressors		5.3. Genetics & breeding in oilseeds/pulses		5.4. Tools for Tomorrow's Agriculture	
Chair L. Gorim   EME 1101		Chairs M. Sharifi & M. Kalischuk   EME 2111		Chairs G. Singh Brar & H. Randhawa   EME 2181		Chairs A. Correndo & A. Farooque   EME 1151	
03:30	<u>D. Rodriguez</u>   Agronomic adaptations to heat stress: Sowing summer crops earlier	03:30	<u>K Hannam</u>   Effects of postharvest deficit irrigation on sweet cherry (Prunus avium)	3:30	M.Y. Najafabadi   The Pulse of Progress: Canada's role in global crop innovation	3:30	A. Farooque   Rrecision agriculture technologies for sustainable farming
03:50	L. Gorim   Soil pH stratification and the need to lime in Western Canada	03:40	<u>M. Hart</u>   Biofertilizers in horticulture: When and where?	3:40	M. House   Accelerated Breeding: Flax	3:50	J. Sulik   Optimizing yield data aggregation in on-farm "strip trials"
04:00	B-L Ma   Nitrogen fertilizer replacement values of farm manure for corn	04:00	M. Sharifi   Soil fertility responses to cover cropping in an irrigated vineyard	3:50	E. Cober   Soybean protein trends		*S. van SteenBergen   Downscaling in-season yield forecasts using remote sensing and machine learning
04:10	Y. Peng   Effect of cover crops on nutrient cycling and cash crop yield	04:10	M. Kalischuk   Improved disease and nutrient scouting in watermelon	4:00	H. Earl   When is yield determined in Ontario soybean?	4:10	
04:20	B. Kumar   Enhancing lodging resistance, yield, and quality in feed barley	04:20	*T. Algar   Rapid soil microbiome assessment in vineyards under cover crop	4:10	F.G. Zurita   Identifying canola accessions with superior photosynthetic traits	4:20	*H. Afzaal   Integrating Deep Learning and UAV remote sensing for precision plant stand counting and spatial fertility
04:30	R. Pudasaini   Nodule crushing: a technique to improve symbiotic traits	04:30	*S.K. Kannangara   Detection of novel viruses/variants in highbush blueberries	4:20	R. Duncan   Genomic selection for oil and fatty acid profile in rapeseed		
04:40	A. Baghdadi   Nutritional improvement and fermentation analysis of corn silage	04:40	*P. McGonigal   Organic waste compost improves soil fertility and nematodes	4:30	A.S. Gerrano   Quantification of genetic variation in composition of cowpea	4:30	*S.J. Cheema   Enhancing potato crop coefficient estimation using XGBoost optimized with Chaos Game and SHAP
04:50	A. Basra   Triple Super Phosphate (TSP) discovered to enhance drought resilience	04:50	*S. Drury   The mycovirome of hypovirulent Botrytis cinerea isolates	4:40	T.A. Jahan   Characterizing variation in root architectural traits among chickpea		
05:00	*M. Bilek   Unravelling the effects of RCA on hydraulic function in corn	05:00	*L. Carruthers   Improving nitrogen use efficiency and reducing nitrous oxide	4:50	S.A. Duchesne   Dissecting the genetic basis of heat tolerance in chickpea	4:40	*M.J. Khan   Eco-friendly hybrid nano-fertilizers from marine waste for enhanced nutrient retention
				5:00	X. Yu   Exploring Pasmio resistance from Linum bienne for flax improvement		
06:30 PM		Gala Dinner & Awards – Manteo at Eldorado Hotel - Cocktail hour with cash bar followed by plated dinner (3.5 h)				Buses depart from and return to Paking Lot F	
		Plenary Speaker - <b>K. Tanino</b>   One foot in both worlds: Personal perspectives on scientific societies in Canada				Host L. Nelson	
Thursday, June 26, 2025							
Plenary Session							
COM 201 Lecture Theatre							
08:30 AM		Welcome & Closing - S. Castellarin & K. Liu   Sustainability & Resilience Panel - Mod. S. Castellarin   Panelists J. Whalen, S. Shirlcliffe, D. Michaud, M. Shehata, L. Benkrima, M. Gomez					
10:00 AM		Morning Break   <i>Sponsored by Feast Farms</i>				EME Mezzanine	
6.1. Workshop - BC Living Laboratories			6.2. Workshop - Ag Extension Networking			6.3. Workshop - Building Organic Science for Impact	
Moderators K. Hannam & G. Telford   EME 1121   10:30-12:00 PM			Chair J. Gill Kahlon   EME 2111   10:30-12:00 PM			Chair A. Hammermeister   EME 1202   10:30-12:00 PM	
Join us to hear about the BC Living Lab from the producers and commodity leads working in the field and on the ground! Panelists – K. Raven, T. Moraes, E. Gerbrandt, G. Nelson, H. Buchler, A. Slade-Shantz			Join us to learn about building effective knowledge transfer and technology exchanges between science and industry! Panelists – S. Strydhorst, S. Phelps, L. Hainstock, H. Markgraf			Join us to learn about leading impactful organic agricultural research to serve producers and communities! Panelists – A. Hammermeister (Leading) with participation of all!	
12:00 PM		Poster & Exhibitor Takedown – End Conference				EME Mezzanine	