

Announcement: The 6th International Society for Plant Molecular Farming Conference in Cape Town

We are thrilled to announce the 6th International Society for Plant Molecular Farming (ISPMF) conference, a groundbreaking event hosted outside of Europe for the first time. Taking place at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Cape Town from May 6-8, 2024, this conference marks a significant milestone for the field of Plant Molecular Farming.

What is plant molecular farming (PMF) also known as biopharming? It is the production of valuable proteins, peptides and small molecules through the use of plant biotechnology. The advancement of this field over the past ~30 years has resulted in the culmination of a number of commercial pharmaceutical and cosmetic protein products as well as secondary metabolite small molecule products for a variety of applications.

About ISPMF: The ISPMF is an academic society for all scientists engaged in plant molecular farming. With over 100 members from all over the world, it exists to promote academic exchange and to further development of this exciting young field.

Why Cape Town? Cape Town, recently voted the 2nd most desirable city to live in globally, secured the bid to host the conference by a narrow margin, triumphing over other contenders like Quebec City (Canada), Kentucky (USA), and Bangkok (Thailand). Renowned for hosting international scientific conferences, Cape Town is the perfect backdrop for the diverse discussions and collaborations that will unfold at the 6th ISPMF conference.

Meet the Organizers: The conference is organized by the Biopharming Research Unit (BRU) and Cape Biologix, the first Biopharming company in South Africa. Established by Prof Ed Rybicki and Associate Professor Inga Hitzeroth at the University of Cape Town, BRU is recognized for its groundbreaking contributions to plant molecular farming. Their spin-off company, Cape Biologix, continues the legacy of innovation in the field.

Keynote Speakers: We are honored to present the distinguished keynote speakers:

Eun-Ju Sohn, CEO of BioApp, South Korea

Yuri Gleba, CEO of Nomad BioSciences, Germany

Ed Rybicki, Director of the Biopharming Research Unit, South Africa

President's Prize and Travel Bursaries: As part of our commitment to nurturing young talent, ISPMF announced the President's Prize. PhD students were invited to submit abstracts for an online presentation at a special student workshop held in February 2024. The "best presentation" winner received a bursary covering travel, accommodation, and registration to attend the conference in Cape Town, with an opportunity to give an oral presentation.

Additionally, ISPMF offered travel bursaries to encourage the participation of younger researchers and students, ensuring a diverse and inclusive conference experience.

Interactive Workshop: During the conference, an interactive workshop will engage second/third-year science undergraduates, introducing them to Plant Molecular Farming. Stellar international scientists will share insights into their research, inspiring the next generation of scientists.

Join us for this unparalleled gathering of minds at the 6th ISPMF conference in Cape Town. For more information and to register, visit [ISPMF Events](#).

Let's cultivate the future of Plant Molecular Farming together!