



Draft Program

Agroecology, Climate Resilience, and Indigenous and Underutilised Crops: Rethinking Value Chains for Sustainable Food Futures

University of Hohenheim

June 9-11, 2026

DAY 1

| June 9th | Agroecology of underutilised and indigenous crops | |
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| 9:30 – 9:45 | Welcome note by the Rector | Prof. Dr. Schneider, University of Hohenheim |
| 9:45 – 10:00 | Welcome address | Prof. Dr. Christine Wieck, University of Hohenheim |
| 10:00 – 11:00 | Keynote: Using underutilised crops for food system resilience: from agroecology to human nutrition | Prof. Ndiko Ludidi, University of Mpumalanga |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | <i>Coffee break</i> | |
| Session 1: Underutilised Crops for the 21st century | | |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Contribution 1 | |
| 11:45 – 12:00 | Contribution 2 | |
| 12:15 – 12:30 | Contribution 3 | |
| 12:30 – 12:45 | Contribution 4 | |
| 12:45 – 14:15 | <i>Lunch (Mensa)</i> | |
| Session 2: Crop Diversity | | |
| 14:15 – 15:45 | Keynotes: From underutilised crop to arising agronomic importance: the examples of hemp and chickpea Agronomy in indigenous crops: management and plant health | Prof. Dr. Simone Graeff-Hoenninger, University of Hohenheim Dr. Ethel Phiri, Stellenbosch University |
| 15:45 – 16:00 | Contribution 5 | |
| 16:00 – 16:15 | Contribution 6 | |
| 16:15 – 16:30 | Contribution 7 | |
| 16:45 – 17:45 | Tour of the Botanical Garden of the University of Hohenheim | Dr. Robert Gliniars |
| 18:00 | <i>Dinner at Garbe Biergarten (self-paying)</i> | |



DAY 2

| June 10th | Underutilised crops potential for resilience and adaptation to climate change | |
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| 9:00 – 10:30 | Keynotes: Improving the potential of underutilised crops by plant breeding using quinoa and amaranth as examples The double role of underutilised crops: important for climate resilient and protein supply | Prof. Dr. Karl Schmid, University of Hohenheim Dr. Lembe S. Magwaza, Cranfield University |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Contribution 8 | |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | Contribution 9 | |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break | |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Keynote: Global initiatives for crop diversity | Nico Wilms-Posen, Crop Trust |
| 12:00 – 12:15 | Contribution 10 | |
| 12:15 – 12:30 | Contribution 11 | |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | Lunch (Mensa) | |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | Poster Session 1 with focus on climate change and discussion with authors at the posters | |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee Break | |
| 16:00 – 17:30 | Poster Session 2 with focus on agroecology of underutilised and indigenous crops change and discussion with authors at the posters | |
| 17:30 – 19:00 | Visit of field experiments on underutilised crops at University of Hohenheim | |
| 19:00 – 22:00 | Conference Dinner, Location: tbd | |



DAY 3

| June 11th | Creating value chains for underutilised crops | |
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| 9:00 – 10:30 | Keynotes: Market challenges for niche products Food innovations and consumer acceptance of underutilised crops | Prof. Dr. Sebastian Hess, University of Hohenheim Prof. Unathi Kolanisi, University of Zululand |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Contribution 12 | |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | Contribution 13 | |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | <i>Coffee Break</i> | |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Poster Session 3 with focus on value chains and discussion with authors at the posters | |
| 13:00 – 13:30 | Closing Session | |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | <i>Lunch box to grab, departure excursion</i> | |
| 14:00 – 19:00 | Excursion to organic farms producing and marketing underutilised crops (e.g. organic farm of family Gansloser, Scharenstetten) | |