

INTERNATIONAL THEMATIC SCHOOL

Genome editing in agriculture

Engaging in policy, legal and institutional issues

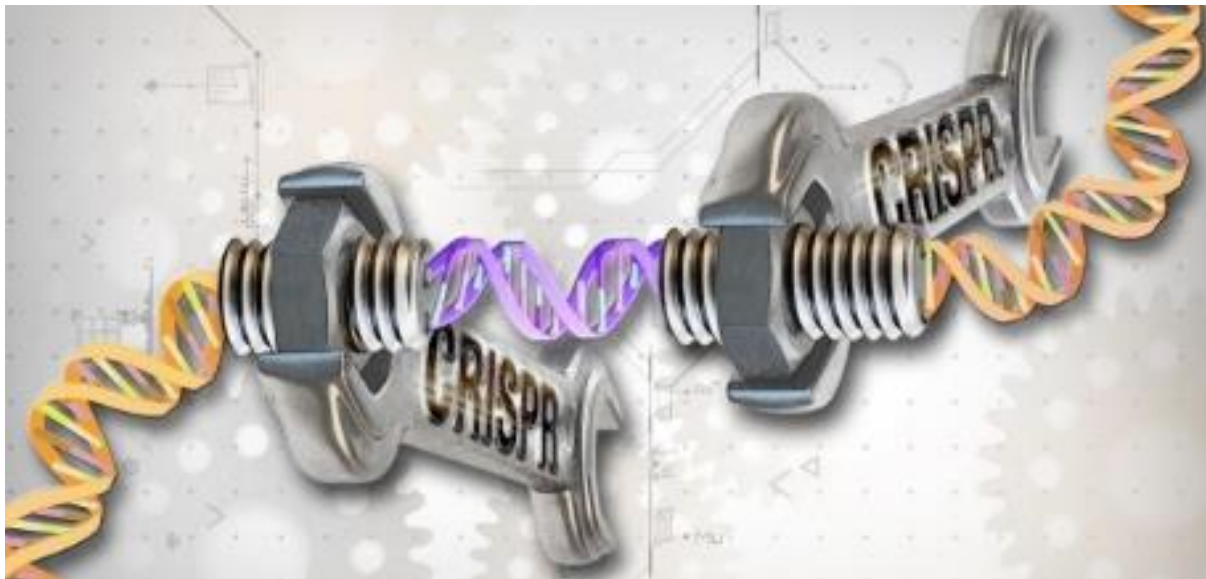
23-25 May, 2018



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Montpellier, France

Overview



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Genome editing tools allow **direct modification of plant genomes** more quickly, cheaply and accurately than ever before. It is a technological revolution with long term implications. The tools are changing the practices of using and exchanging biological material in plant science including **the way plant breeding is conducted**. The emergence of such a technology raises a series of social, institutional, legal and policy issues.

Whether you are a biologist or a geneticist, a lawyer or a social scientist, this thematic school will help you better grasp the various **societal dimensions of genome editing**:

- What are regulatory considerations for products derived from these techniques?
- What are the practical impacts on legal constructs such as intellectual property, access and benefit sharing?
- What are the implications of gene drives on sustainable agriculture?

This international thematic school will create learning opportunities for complex issues that require **enhanced interactions between plant scientists and social scientists**.

Main objectives

By the end of the course, you will:

- have a deeper understanding of policy, institutional and legal issues related to genome editing;
- enhance your ability to engage in policy and social debates on genome editing.

Course schedule

The thematic international school will take place during three days (for a total of 21 hours of training), in Montpellier, France, from Wednesday 23 to Friday 25 May 2018. It will be held in English and structured in three segments.

- **In the first day**, we will introduce the three main units of analysis related to genome editing:
 - **the current state of biosecurity regulation** through a comparative approach;
 - **intellectual property rights** (IPR) and **access and benefits sharing** (ABS);
 - **sustainable agriculture**.

This teaching block will include briefings on the status of discussions in relevant international fora such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.



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- **The second day** will mainly consist of **small break out groups** of 3 to 5 fellows working on one specific topic. You will be given some material (videos, academic and magazine papers, institutional reports) and be asked to **prepare a presentation** for the next day that will help organize the collective discussion.
- **On the third day**, each group will present its findings and **debate with selected experts** in biology, public administration, law and political science, who will interact with the fellows and the teaching team.

	Morning	Afternoon
Wednesday 23 May	Introduction to genome editing The legal and policy landscape	Introduction to the topics and the material for the three break out groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory considerations on products derived from genome-editing (Topic 1) • Impact on ABS and IPR (Topic 2) • Gene drive in Agriculture (Topic 3)
Thursday 24 May	Break out groups	Break out groups
Friday 25 May	Topic 1 introduced by the students (30 minutes) Round table on Topic 1 (1 hour) Topic 2 introduced by the students (30 minutes) Round table on Topic 2 (1 hour)	Topic 3 introduced by the students (30 minutes) Round table on Topic 3 (1 hour)



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Who organizes this thematic school ?



This thematic school is part of the international CultiVar project. CultiVar fosters the exchange of information and capacities between researchers and students within established Masters and PhD curricula oriented towards plant breeding. It is an international multi-partner initiative funded by the French government ("Investissements d'avenir" program, ANR-10-LABX-001-01 Labex Agro ANR) via Agropolis Fondation, a world-class scientific network in the South of France.

More info about CultiVar: <http://www.cultivar-flagship.net>



This thematic school is supported by Montpellier doctoral school GAIA but it is opened to students coming from other doctoral schools in France.

More info about ED GAIA: <https://gaia.umontpellier.fr>

It is organized in collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the UNESCO Chair in World Food Systems.



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



UNESCO Chair in
World Food
Systems

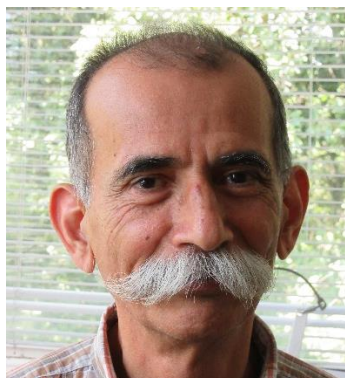
Costs

This thematic school is **free of charge**.

Please note that CultiVar can provide a couple of PhD students or teachers from developing countries with limited financial support (airfare and/or accommodation).

Interest in receiving financial support is to be expressed in the cover letter.

The teaching group



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(CIRAD/AGAP, Montpellier – France)



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Daniele Manzella
(FAO, Rome - Italy)



Christophe Périn
(CIRAD/AGAP, Montpellier – France)



David Pot
(CIRAD/AGAP, Montpellier – France)



Eric Welch
(CSTEPS / ASU, Phoenix - USA)

Qualifications

- **Basic understanding of genetics** is not mandatory but highly recommended.
- **Fluency in English** is necessary.

Application and selection criteria

Max. 18 participants can attend the course (PhD students, teachers and researchers).

If you wish to apply, please **send an application form and a cover letter**, with a focus on the candidate's interest in cross-disciplinary issues, **before 30rd March 2018** to:

agnes.seye@cirad.fr (tel: 00 33 6 63 39 24 69)

Candidates will be officially selected considering the application package.

Selected participants will receive an official invitation before 15th April 2018.

If you need more information on the content of the course

Sélim Louafi >> selim.louafi@cirad.fr

If you need more information on practical issues

Agnès Seye >> agnes.seye@cirad.fr or 00 33 (0)6 63 39 24 69