



February 2019

2020 BGRl Technical Workshop to be held June 1-4 in the UK



The John Innes Centre is part of the Norwich Research Park, a community of independent research organizations located north of Norwich, England. Photo from John Innes Centre.

It is our pleasure to announce that the 2020 BGRl Technical Workshop will be hosted at the John Innes Centre at the Norwich Research Park in Norfolk, England. Pre-workshop meetings and events will take place from 30-31 May 2020, while the main workshop program will be held 1-4 June 2020.

More information on workshop registration, abstract submission, and the final agenda will be released over the next months.

Celebrate International Women's Day with #WomeninWheat



On March 8
let's celebrate
#WomenInWheat



March 8 is [International Women's Day](#)! Help us highlight the many ways that women participate in wheat research and production by tagging your social media posts with **#WomenInWheat**. Whether it's doing molecular research, surveying fields, getting ready for planting or harvest, or delivering a presentation, help us make the role women play in keeping this vital crop alive more visible. Share a story, a picture, or video of women in wheat -- from your own experience, or even those who might have inspired you in the past!

DGGW Surveillance Training in South Asia



Participants at the DGGW's pre-season surveillance training in Bhutan, Nov. 2018. Photo provided.

Wheat disease surveillance has been an essential aspect of the Delivering Genetic Gain in Wheat (DGGW) and Durable Rust Resistance in Wheat (DRRW) projects under the Borlaug Global Rust Initiative (BGRI) ever since the BGRI's inception in 2008. Building capacity in surveillance and its tools is important to keep young scientists well-equipped to face future challenges.

For the past six years, scientists have been using Information and Communication Technology, or ICT-based, tools to capture wheat surveillance data in the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) region. Sathguru Management Consultants managed trainings during this period on behalf of the DGGW.

[Read more about the South Asia surveillance training updates on the BGRI blog.](#)

Enhancing the global pipeline of women wheat scientists

To strengthen the network of women working in wheat, 13 scientists participated in the DGGW-sponsored Leadership Training for Women Scientists in Chennai, India, from 10-14 December 2018.

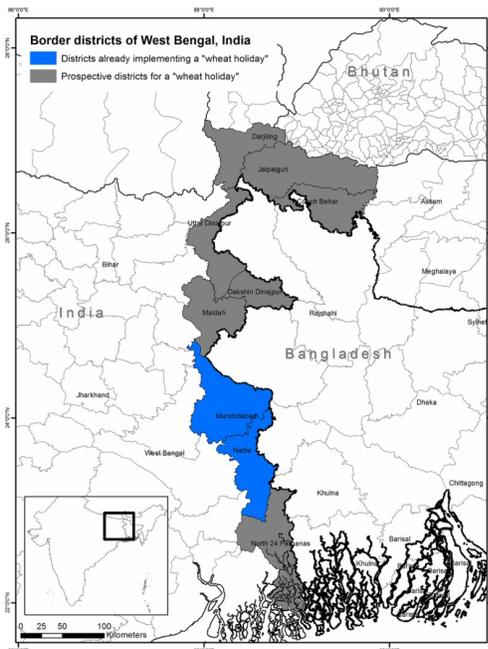


Participants at the leadership workshop engaged in several exercises designed to enhance skills for managing teams and large collaborations.

The group, which included previous Women in Triticum winners, worked on facilitating group dynamics and managing conflict, dealing more effectively with different personalities and cultures, setting goals and priorities, delegating, and practicing key communication skills.

[Read more about the training and perspectives from the participants.](#)

Alternative crops in West Bengal could help avert wheat blast



A map depicting the nine border districts of West Bengal districts and the two districts where wheat cultivation is already banned. Image from Mottaleb KA, Singh PK, Sonder K, Kruseman G, and Erenstein O (2019)

In a new study, researchers from the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) explore how temporarily suspending wheat cultivation in nine border districts in West Bengal could prevent the deadly wheat blast fungus from spreading to India.

In 2016, a wheat blast outbreak was reported for the first time in Bangladesh, South Asia. The re-emergence of blast in subsequent seasons indicates a risk of the fungus passing to India across their shared border, which could have devastating impacts on India's overall food security. The study assesses the potential economic feasibility of alternative crops to wheat, and what support might be needed to ease the transition for any crop substitutions.

[Read More: Averting wheat blast by implementing a 'wheat holiday': In search of alternative crops in West Bengal, India](#)

Events and Opportunities

30th Fungal Genetics Conference

12-17 March 2019 (*Pacific Grove, CA, USA*)

<http://conferences.genetics-gsa.org/Fungal/2019/index>

Rust Workshop at the Fungal Genetics Conference

12 March 2019

Speakers: Catherine Aime, Anna Berlin, Fungi DB, Tao Siqi

Brainstorm Session: Diane Saunders, Peter van Esse, Anna Berlin, Sebastien Duplessis, Catherine Aime, Melania Figueroa

Contact: Peter.vanesse@tsl.ac.uk

1st International Wheat Congress

Contribute to the BGRI Newsletter and Social Media

If you have any news of interest to the BGRI community, please send us a message and we will try to include it in subsequent BGRI newsletters! We also publish and share stories on our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. Use [@globalrust](#) to tag any contributions.

Events, career and educational opportunities, photos, and new publications are especially welcome.

Contact BGRI newsletter editor [Samantha Hautea](#) or [the BGRI](#).

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Borlaug Global Rust Initiative
| bgri@cornell.edu |

The Borlaug Global Rust Initiative is supported through the Delivering Genetic Gain in Wheat (DGGW) project at International Programs at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. DGGW is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and UK aid from the UK government.



**SIGN UP FOR
OUR EMAILS**



**SHARE THIS
EMAIL**

