



We have 1001 reasons to invest in sorghum

#42 the democratic one



#703 the limitless one



#228 the gluten free one



#525 the lipstick one



#66 the very Italian one



Congress
program
Budapest
2025

#954 the super caloric one



#87 the tidy one



#189 the popular one



#421 the united one



#879 the party one





We have
1001 reasons
to invest in sorghum

4th European Sorghum Congress Budapest

October 8th - 9th 2025



Congress program Budapest2025

Wednesday 8th October

09:00 Welcome coffee and poster delivery



09:30 Welcome speech

Opening of the Congress

Pierre Pagès - President | Sorghum ID

10:00 Introduction conference

Introduction, Sorghum sector overview and economic information

Pierre Guillaumin - Economics & international services | FNPSMS

Arthur Boy - Economic affairs officer | AGPM

10:20 Round table

Success Story, Sorghum in Hungary

László Balogh - Crop manager | Lidea Seeds

Gábor Feczák - CEO | Agroszemek Kft.

Fazekas Miklós - Co-manager | Alfaseed Kft.

Dr. István Dezső Kovács - Director crop trade Department | Kite

11:20 Keynote speaker

Testimony: Sorghum Checkoff:

Association creation and relation with downstream of the sector

John Duff - Founder | Serō Ag Strategies

Florentino Lopez - Agricultural Consultant | Creando

Mañana

12:00 Conclusion and program of the day

Valérie Brochet - Delegate | Sorghum ID

12:20 Lunch



14:00 - 16:00 Workshops

Feed - Food - Diversification



Details on following pages

16:00 - 16:30 Break

16:30 - 18:00 Workshops

Feed - Food - Diversification

19:00 Cocktail and Dinner



Thursday 9th October

09:00 Welcome coffee and poster delivery



09:15 Poster Session

10:00 Introduction conference

Opening Sorghum ID

Martin Gomez - Development Manager | FNPSMS

10:20 RiSorgo: from pitchfork to fork.

A three-year project to go beyond agronomic characterization and create the link between food industry and farmers

Presentation of the RiSorgo project

Monia Caramma - Sustainable Food Researcher |

Monia Caramma

Tiziana Vonlanthen - Scientific Technical Assistant |

Agroscope

10:45 Round table

Feedback from the workshop sessions

Monia Caramma - Sustainable Food Researcher |

Monia Caramma

Thierry Lecat - Business Manager Western Europe |

Advanta seeds

Raphael Van Hyfte - Business Development and Marketing

Manager | Semences de Provence

11:45 Sorghum Lobbying to international Institutions, testimony and perspectives

Testimony of international lobbying for sorghum

Nate Blum - Chief Executive Officer | Sorghum United Foundation

12:00 Conclusion of the congress

Closing of the Congress - Sorghum ID

12:15 Lunch



13:30 Dedicated time and area for B to B meeting

WORKSHOP FEED

14:00 SWOT analysis for feed

Clarifying common misconceptions about sorghum through a SWOT analysis, highlighting its resilience and alignment with European sustainability goals

Thierry Lecat – Business Manager Western Europe | Advanta seeds

14:30 Composition of the grain sorghum and its use in feeding industry

Markus Wiltafsky-Martin – Managing Director | Evonik Industries

15:00 Nutrition for poultry & swine

Sorghum as a feed ingredient for monogastrics

Dr. Varga Orsolya – R&D Manager | Bonafarm-Bábolna Takarmány Kft.

15:30 Sorghum in pork feeding – the main plus and contra

Sorghum in pig nutrition: overview of main advantages and drawbacks

Marcin Sońta – Assistant Professor Department of Animal Breeding and Nutrition | Warsaw University of Life Sciences

16:00 – 16:30 Break

16:30 Introduction of sorghum feed, the Italian example of the Parmigiano Reggiano consortium

Gabriele Gasbarrini – Head of business development | RV Venturoli

17:00 Vertical integration of feed production with sorghum

Strategic insight into vertically integrated sorghum-based feed production, with the Hungarian model

Dr. István Dezső Kovács – Director crop trade Department | Kite

17:30 Use of sorghum in pet food recipes

Petfood industry, recipes used to prepare the dry/wet food for pets and why sorghum is not in the recipe. The recent change in the recipe by using sorghum and feedback from end users.

Cristian Andrei – CEO | United Petfood represented by

Peter Katai – Sales Director Hungary | United Petfood

#42 the democratic one



Once finely ground, sorghum is equally suitable for pig feed, poultry feed and livestock feed.

#440 the white one



Highly sought-after in certain markets, sorghum-fed poultry meat is whiter.

#954 the super caloric one



In addition to its favorable composition, sorghum is the cereal with the highest energy value for poultry.

#189 the popular one



90% of sorghum produced in Europe is destined for animal feed.

WORKSHOP

FOOD

14:00 Sorghum farming

Key insights on integrating sorghum into regenerative agriculture, boosting biodiversity and soil health, and its role in both animal feed and human food

Dr. Zoltán Gergáczy - Chairman of the Board / Agricultural Engineer | Kányai and Nágocsi Agricultural Ltd

14:30 Sorghum breeding

General aspect and specific about food purpose, focused on protein content

Jöel Alcouffe - Head of Sorghum Breeding | RAGT 2n

15:00 Sorghum milling

The crucial aspect of sorghum flour: milling, pregelatinization, flakes

Beatrice Saggiorato - Sales Account and Operations Manager | La Veronese Molino e Riseria Martini

15:30 Sorghum transformer / innovation

How innovate with sorghum-based products by asserting clean label and healthy formulations: the ORI approach

Mohamed Zellama - Founder and CEO | ORI Sorgho Smartfood

16:00 - 16:30 Break

16:30 Sorghum food processing evidence that sorghum is a strategic ingredient for the food industry

From breakfast to dinner, a huge variety of Sorghum food

Monia Caramma - Sustainable Food Researcher | Monia Caramma

17:00 Sorghum food case history

Experience sharing: pasta, crackers, other product implementation on French Market

Aurelien Amir - Co-founder | Vieille Graine

17:30 Buyers and supermarkets POV

Aventure bio. Will talk about the selection process of sorghum products in large retailers and the importance of shelf rotation

Online speaker - Simon Le Fur - Co-founder | Aventure bio

#66 the very Italian one

Used as an alternative to forage, sorghum makes it possible to feed the Italian dairy cows that produce parmesan cheese.



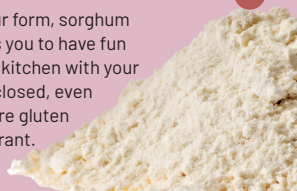
#864 the gastronomic one

The new favorite of chefs the world over, sorghum goes equally well with meat and fish. Sorghum has it all.



#228 the gluten free one

In flour form, sorghum allows you to have fun in the kitchen with your eyes closed, even if you're gluten intolerant.



#291 the sweet one

Impossible to confuse with any other, sorghum flour can be recognized by its slightly sweet taste.



WORKSHOP DIVERSIFICATION

14:00 Feeding the future: A smart choice for a changing climate

Ideotypes seed varieties (mono vs multicut, BMR, PPS, feed value) and uses (milk, livestock, industrial use), silage management (silo, cut etc.)

Dr. József János - Chief Plant Breeder, PhD | Alfaseed Kft.

14:30 Sorghum breeding

Sorghum breeding for heterosis and perenniality at ICRISAT: Progress and outlook

Ephrem Habyarimana - Principal scientist / Sorghum Breeding | ICRISAT International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics

15:00 Bioenergy production, which variety to use?

Varieties ideotypes depending on final use, and Brazilian examples

Rafael Parrella - Researcher | Embrapa Milho e Sorgo

15:30 Biogas in Europe: focus on EU regulation

RED directive, Impact on agriculture and valorization for biogas

Tadeg Grall - Consultant | GRDF

16:00 - 16:30 Break

16:30 Sorghum as a livestock for Biogas production in Europe

Summer cropping dedicated to biogas production: interests and limits, cost efficiency, crop rotation

Bertrand Duprat - Farmer | Association des Agriculteurs Méthaniseurs de France

17:00 Bioethanol: International overview

Worldwide overview: 1st generation ethanol application, 2nd generation advancements and efficiency. Alcohol to Jet technology project.

Francis Borges - Global Head, Sustainable Value Chains | Advanta Seeds

17:30 Round table: exchanges around global vision of sorghum development towards bioenergy production

What are the main constraints in the different areas and how to overcome them? Why did sorghum become popular in those areas?

John Duff - Founder | Serô Ag Strategies

Francis Borges - Global Head, Sustainable Value Chains | Advanta Seeds

Rafael Parrella - Researcher | Embrapa Milho e Sorgo

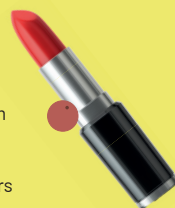
Miklós Fazekas - Co-manager | Alfaseed Kft.

#703 the limitless one



With sorghum, everything is transformed, nothing is lost. The proof: paper is made from bagasse from the biofuel industry.

#525 the lipstick one



Dyes derived from sorghum offer a new palette of eco-friendly colors for cosmetics.

#87 the tidy one



Since time immemorial, sorghum straw has been used to make sturdy brooms.

#421 the united one



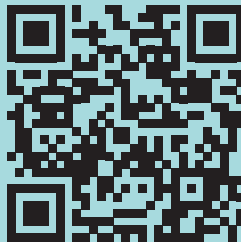
Sorghum has a very high energy yield. It can be used to produce bioethanol at a very competitive cost.



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● **Joël Alcouffe** | Head of Sorghum Breeding | RAGT 2n

Work in RAGT2n, research subsidiary of RAGT group, since 2000. Started as breeding technician in charge of the French program operations, then taking the responsibility as breeder. Currently coordinating sorghum European & Latam programs.

Intervention: Grain quality: global approach to integrate new targets in breeding work. Sorghum plays a significant role in human food especially in regions with challenging climates and lower incomes.

Even if in Europe grain sorghum production is mainly dedicated to feed, uses in human food are emerging. In both cases, grain quality qualification and improvement are important NITROSORG project is an example of collaborative work which addressed the objective to develop tools to be implemented in breeding strategies.

jalcouffe@ragt.fr

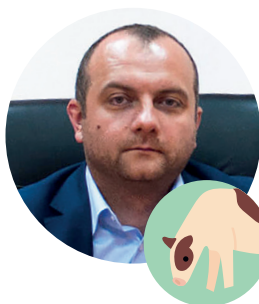


● **Aurélien Amir** | Co-Founder | Vieille graine

Aurélien Amir is the co-founder of Vieille Graine, a French food company developing tasty, climate-resilient products from underused cereals like sorghum and millet. He works at the intersection of sustainable agriculture and consumer innovation.

Intervention: Innovating with sorghum: building a market from (almost) scratch in France. In France, sorghum is virtually unknown to consumers. With Vieille Graine, we've been building both a supply chain and a market from (almost) scratch — turning an agronomic crop into a desirable food product.

aurelien@vieillegraine.fr



● **Cristian Andrei** | CEO | United Petfood

Work as Managing Director for United Petfood (Romania&Hungary) for over 4 years, with a strong background in Food manufacturing (Kerry Group, Aryzta) and beer production (Heineken UK).

Intervention: Use of Sorghum in pet food recipes. It can be used, but limited to max 10% of the recipe, due to the effects on palatability.

cristian.andrei@unitedpetfood.ro



● **László Balogh** | Crop manager | Lidea Seeds

Since graduating from the University of Agriculture in Keszthely in 1993, I have been continuously working in various areas of agriculture. I have worked on a farm in the USA, managed crop protection and cultivation at an agricultural company, and led the training farm of an agricultural secondary school while teaching professional subjects. Additionally, I have served as a plant protection inspector and as the EU plant health border station manager for my region. Since 2012, I have been working at Lidea. I started as a Regional Representative and, since 2017, I have been working as a Crop Manager.

My favorite crop is sorghum. From the very beginning, I have been involved in building the domestic supply chain from farmers to end-users, as well as in developing and improving cultivation methods suited to Hungarian conditions. My daily work includes setting up trials, developing technologies, and selecting and introducing hybrids that perform exceptionally well under Hungarian conditions. I maintain close relationships with farmers, supporting their work with professional advice.

laszlo.balogh@lidea-seeds.com



● **Nate Blum** | Chief Executive Officer | Sorghum United Foundation

Nate Blum is the CEO of BlüMilo and the Sorghum United Foundation, where he promotes sustainable agriculture and economic opportunities linked to sorghum and millets. A recognized expert in over 40 countries, he has represented these sectors at the UN and organized summits on sustainable food systems. Former director of the Nebraska Grain Sorghum Board, he also advises the USDA and the UN Committee on Food Security. As a speaker and mentor, he is frequently featured in international media. With a degree in psychology, he combines strategic leadership, community engagement, and creativity, notably through his youth series Sorgho Squad.

Intervention: Policies favoring the production, processing, and marketing of ancient and sustainable grains such as sorghum and millets are integral to changing major global food, fuel, and fiber systems. Worldwide, the majority of our agricultural systems have been built on only a limited variety of grains, which are often water intensive and lacking in nutritive quality. This has led to the rise of monoculture cropping systems at the cost of soil health, water quality, and biodiversity. By looking holistically at policies which support research, product development, producer education, and consumer awareness, the sorghum and millets industry can provide real solutions to supplement sustainability and health in cropping systems.

nate@sorghumunited.com



Francis Borges | Global Head, Sustainable Value Chains | Advanta Seeds
Francis Borges is the Global Head of Sustainable Value Chains at Advanta Seeds, where he leads initiatives that integrate sustainability, farmer-centric innovation, and climate-resilient agriculture across more than 90 countries. With over 30 years of experience in agriculture, biofuels, and international trade, Francis has been instrumental in developing sustainable seed systems, promoting smallholder farmer access to improved seeds, and advancing biofuel feedstock programs that contribute to both food security and energy transition. At Advanta, he champions global strategic collaborations and public-private partnerships to drive seed innovation in food and oilseed crops, aligning with the UN SDGs and the company's commitment to building resilient food systems.

Intervention: This presentation explores the versatility of sorghum as a bioenergy crop. We will examine the potential and applications of sweet sorghum for 1G and 2G ethanol, as well as its role in compressed biogas (CBG) production, highlighting recent advancements, efficiency metrics, and operational challenges. Finally, we will discuss the economic viability and market outlook for using sorghum grain in ethanol production, drawing insights from global use cases.

francis.borges@advantaseeds.com



Arthur Boy | Economic affairs officer | AGPM
Arthur Boy works for the General Association of Corn Producers (AGPM-France). He focuses primarily on monitoring corn and sorghum markets, production costs, and European affairs with a view to improving the competitiveness of French and European producers.

arthur.boy@fnpsms.fr



Valérie Brochet | Delegate | Sorghum ID
Valérie Brochet is an agricultural engineer with a specialisation in agricultural economics from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She serves as the Delegate for SORGHUM ID, an association committed to advancing the European sorghum sector. Since 2019, she has also headed the French National Federation of Maize and Sorghum Seed Production, where she oversees promotional activities, research and development programmes, economic analysis, and regulatory matters relating to seed production.

valerie.brochet@fnpsms.fr



● **Monia Caramma** | Sustainable Food Researcher | Monia Caramma

Monia Caramma is Sustainable food Researcher. She has been studying ancient grains with and without gluten since 2000 and has been studying sorghum and its transformation since 2015. Since 2017 she has the IP on the blockchain for the production of 100% sorghum dry pasta, in 2024 she added 4 more sorghum IP: additive-free drink, puffed snacks, crispy galette, long pasta. She is a Board member of Sorghum ID and VP of Sorghum United Foundation.

Intervention: Sorghum has great potential to become the primary ingredient for the food industry, including the baby food and healthy one. However, there are shortcomings in knowledge, training, and R&D investment. Let's look together at some solutions to support change and enhance the value of sorghum.

mo@moniacaramma.ch



● **John Duff** | Founder | Serô Ag Strategies

John Duff is the founder of Serô Ag Strategies, a sustainable development strategy consulting firm that connects farmers with their supply chain partners. Today, he works primarily with sorghum producers, helping them bridge the gap between their farms and ethanol plants by focusing on commercial and policy strategy in the field of low-carbon fuels.

Intervention: His presentation will focus on sorghum's role in the ethanol industry, and specifically the advantages it brings in the marketplace given it is a resource conserving option often grown as a double (intermediate) crop or on marginal land.

john@sorghumgrowers.com



● **Bertrand Duprat** | Farmer | Association des Agriculteurs Méthaniseurs de France

Bertrand Duprat is a farmer at GAEC de Laschamp (Puy-de-Dôme) and vice-president of the AAMF.

Committed to energy transition, in 2014 he launched a first cogeneration methanization unit, followed by a second injection unit producing biomethane. His projects recycle agricultural waste, reduce pollution, and provide carbon-free energy.

He is also developing photovoltaic projects to diversify energy sources and secure agricultural income.

Committed to his region, he promotes local dialogue, cooperation between farmers, and the creation of sustainable jobs.

Intervention: Summer cropping dedicated to biogas production: interests and limits, cost efficiency, crop rotation.

dupratbertrandpro@gmail.com



● **Gábor Feczák** | CEO | Agroszemek Kft.

After finishing my studies at the University of Agriculture in Debrecen, I joined Agroszemek Ltd in 2010. I have been involved in sorghum seed production since 2000, building on earlier experience in sorghum breeding. Since 2019, I have been producing LIDEA grain and forage sorghum seeds in Hungary, focusing on meeting the needs of the domestic market.

From sowing to harvest, I work closely with our partners, providing expert advice on cultivation technologies and plant protection. I also assist with the registration of the pesticides and the planning and implementation of field trials, testing the varieties. My goal is the high-quality sorghum seed production and support our partners to increase sorghum cultivation areas in Hungary.

gabor.feczak@agroszemek.hu



● **Gabriele Gasbarrini** | Head of business development | RV Venturoli

Gabriele Gasbarrini represents the fourth generation in RV Venturoli, a historical Italian seed company, and holds the role of Marketing and Product Development Manager for Italy and abroad.

Intervention: The presentation aims to provide an overview of the growing role of sorghum in the Italian agricultural sector, with a specific focus on the national market and the development perspectives highlighted by RV Venturoli, one of the leading seed companies in the field. Recent initiatives involving the integration of sorghum into the Parmigiano Reggiano supply chain will also be discussed. This innovative project, launched in recent years, seeks to improve crop rotation sustainability, ensure forage self-sufficiency, and reduce the environmental footprint of production. The presentation will underline how sorghum can represent a strategic resource from both an economic and agroecological perspective, strengthening the competitiveness and resilience of Italy's high-value supply chains.

g.gasbarrini@rv-venturoli.com



Dr. Zoltán Gergácz | Chairman of the Board / Agricultural Engineer | Kányai and Nágocsi Agricultural Ltd

Dr. Zoltán Gergácz has 19 years of experiences in animal feeding, R&D and commercial topic. He had directed many large farms (the biggest was more than 7.000-hectare ploughland with 1.200 milking cow) also, where he managed the company within the works of growing plants and animal husbandry (dairy cow, turkey, broiler, and swine).

He has more than 25 years, management practices and worked for several multinational companies (American, Dutch).

Intervention: He will be sharing the keys to:

- Integrate sorghum into regenerative practices
- Explain why it is essential to boost biodiversity and soil health
- The use of sorghum in animal feed and human food supply!
- Activate the levers to make sorghum a vector for carbon credits and economic sustainability.

gergacz.zoltan.dr@kanyaizrt.hu



Martin Gomez | Development Manager | FNPSMS

I worked for 4 years as product manager in the field of grain storage sanitation product. Today I work as the National Federation of Maize and Sorghum Seeds Production promoting the know how and the spectacular innovation capacity of Seeds companies and multipliers located in France. My mission within Sorghum ID association focus on gathering together all European sorghum stakeholders and bringing new ideas and energy to develop a European sorghum sector.

martin.gomez@fnpsms.fr



Pierre Guillaumin | Economics & international services | FNPSMS

For more than 10 years Pierre Guillaumin has been working at the French National Federation of Maize and Sorghum Seed Production (FNPSMS). He is mainly focused on market research and international development, aiming to strengthen synergies and partnerships across the seed corn and sorghum value chains, both in France and abroad.

pierre.guillaumin@fnpsms.fr



Ephrem Habyarimana | Principal scientist / Sorghum Breeding |
ICRISAT International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics

Intervention: Sorghum breeding for heterosis and perenniality at ICRISAT: Progress and outlook.

ephrem.habyarimana@icrisat.org



Dr. Jóvér János | Chief Plant Breeder, PhD | Alfaseed Kft.

János Jóvér is the Lead Sorghum Breeder at Alfaseed Ltd., where he drives innovation in field sorghum breeding and seed production. With a strong academic and professional background in agriculture and plant sciences, he has been dedicated to sorghum research since 2007, building extensive expertise in both breeding and seed production.

Over the past years, János has focused on advancing sorghum field breeding, developing resilient hybrids, and optimizing production systems to meet the challenges of climate change and modern agriculture. His work emphasizes improving grain quality, feed value, and overall adaptability, positioning sorghum as a key crop for sustainable farming both in Hungary and internationally.

Intervention: He will explore current advances in sorghum breeding and seed production, with a focus on how field-based breeding strategies can enhance quality, feed value, and climate resilience. Drawing on nearly two decades of sorghum research, the session will highlight practical insights from breeding programs, the challenges and opportunities in hybrid development, and the future outlook for sorghum as a cornerstone of sustainable agriculture.

jover.janos@alfaseed.hu



Peter Katai | Sales Director Hungary | United Petfood

Sales Director at United Petfood Hungary. Experienced Sales and Managing Director with a strong background in the consumer goods industry, specializing in FMCG, B2B sales, milling, and the pet food industry. Holds a Master's degree in Business and Marketing from the International Business School and Szent István University.

katai@unitedpetfood.hu



● **Dr. István Dezső Kovács** | Director crop trade Department | Kite

Intervention: He will share his strategic vision on the vertical integration of sorghum-based animal feed production, based on concrete cases and proven models in Central Europe. Why is it a must?

- High-impact economic and agronomic thinking
- Valuable insights for producers, cooperatives and manufacturers
- Highlighting sorghum's strengths in integrated supply chains, particularly in the context of sustainable transition.

kovacsistvan@kite.hu



● **Simon Le Fur** | Co-founder | Adventure bio

Co-founder of the SCOP Adventure bio (Occitanie), pioneer of organic bulk and zero waste, Simon has been accompanying responsible brands to the shelves of organic stores and major retailers since 2018.

Intervention: In his presentation "Buyers and Supermarkets POV", he will go over:

- Buyers' key expectations in terms of sustainability, origin and product performance
- Sorghum's positioning in the current organic offer
- The levers for integrating this crop into tomorrow's shelves

A valuable testimonial for sorghum professionals wishing to better understand retail decision-making criteria and anticipate responsible consumer trends.

sif@aventure.bio



● **Thierry Lecat** | Business Manager Western Europe | Advanta seeds

Working in seeds since 1986 for Cargill Seeds, Dekalb, and Advanta in sales, marketing, and management roles. Responsible for the development of the Advanta seeds - Alta seeds range in Western Europe.

Intervention: Clarifying common misconceptions about sorghum through a SWOT analysis, highlighting its resilience and alignment with European sustainability goals.

thierry.lecat@advantaseeds.com



● **Florentino Lopez** | Agricultural Consultant | Creando Mañana

Florentino Lopez is an independent agricultural consultant with Creando Mañana Agricultural Consulting, specializing in strategic development, market expansion, and product promotion for sorghum and other agricultural products. He supports clients by facilitating sales, building partnerships, and sharing technical insights to strengthen the supply chain. Florentino has also helped develop several companies and programs aimed at driving innovation and meaningful change in agriculture. Previously, he served as executive director of the United Sorghum Checkoff Program, leading efforts to advance the sorghum industry through research, promotion and education.

Intervention: Provide a background on our work with the checkoff and other organizations to grow sorghum knowledge, market access, opportunities and developments worldwide. We have a hands-on, strategic and relationship-based approach centred on increasing the use of sorghum.

florentino@creandomañana.com



● **Fazekas Miklós** | Co-Manager | Alfaseed Kft.

fazekas.miklos@alfaseed.hu



● **Dr. Varga Orsolya** | R&D Manager | Bonafarm-Bábolna Takarmány Kft.

More than 10 years of professional and practical experience in animal nutrition. A significant part of it is related to one of the largest feed producer company in Hungary, to Bonafarm-Bábolna Feed Ltd. Since the beginning of my career, I have been working in the field of R&D. As R&D Manager of Bonafarm-Bábolna Feed Ltd, I am responsible for planning and leading feeding trials, evaluating, publishing and implementing the results to practice. My professional background is characterized by active research work and publication activity, especially in the field of swine nutrition.

orsolya.vida2@btakarmany.bonafarm.hu



● **Pierre Pagès** | President | Sorghum ID

Pierre Pagès is a farmer specialising in the production of maize, sunflower, and soya seeds. He also grows sorghum, other cereals, and vegetables in the south-west of France. Active on the board of the interprofessional association SORGHUM ID since its foundation in 2017, he has served as its president since 2023, representing the FNPSMS (French National Federation of Maize and Sorghum Seed Production), which he also chairs. In addition, he is president of Lidea and SEMAE, the French interprofessional seed organisation, and is deeply committed to the development of the seed sector.

pierre.pages@fnpsms.fr



● **Beatrice Saggiorato** | Sales Account and Operations Manager | La Veronese Molino e Riseria Martini

Beatrice Saggiorato serves as Sales Account and Operations Manager at La Veronese Molino e Riseria Martini, specializing in gluten-free and hypoallergenic food solutions. She has a well-rounded academic background with a focus in the food sector.



Intervention: Beatrice Saggiorato will present La Veronese's pioneering role in the gluten-free sector, focusing on sorghum processing. The company is among the first in Europe to specialize in the milling and gelatinization of sorghum for human consumption. The talk will also explore key production steps involved in obtaining gelatinized flour from this ancient grain.

commerciale@laveronese.com



● **Rafael Parrella** | Researcher | Embrapa Milho e Sorgo

Rafael Parrella, a leading specialist in the development of sorghum hybrids with high biomass production for bioenergy production! He's backed by many years of applied research using different strategies to develop biomass and sweet sorghum hybrids for conversion to renewable energy.



Intervention: He will share practical case studies: biofuel production (1G and 2G ethanol, cogeneration, and biogas) and agronomic development, practical recommendations for farmers seeking to diversify their activities, challenges, and more.

rafael.parrella@embrapa.br



- **Marcin Sońta** | Assistant Professor Department of Animal Breeding and Nutrition | Warsaw University of Life Sciences
Assistant professor at the Department of Animal Breeding and Nutrition, Institute of Animal Sciences, Warsaw University of Life Sciences. His research interests focus on the search for alternative feeds used in animal nutrition.

Intervention: The topic of the presentation will be the use of sorghum seeds in pig and poultry nutrition. The presentation will discuss the nutritional value of sorghum seeds and then, based on scientific research results, the practical aspects of using sorghum in the nutrition of various production groups of pigs and poultry.

marcin_sonta1@sggw.edu.pl



- **Raphael Van Hyfte** | Business Development and Marketing Manager | Semences de Provence
Agronomist, with close to 10 years experience in the seed industry, both in vegetables and field crops, on international perimeter and across multiple functions: R&D, marketing and seed production.

rvanhyfte@semencesdeprovence.com



- **Tiziana Vonlanthen** | Scientific Technical Assistant | Agroscope
After completing my studies in Agricultural Science with a focus on Plant Science at ETH Zurich, I worked for seven years as a scientific-technical assistant at Agroscope—the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture's (FOAG) center of excellence for agricultural research. My work primarily involved managing projects from sowing through to data publication in the areas of variety testing and cultivation techniques, with a focus on crops such as sorghum, proso millet, soybean, hemp, and maize.

Intervention: My talk presents the RiSorgo project, which explores the potential of sorghum as a resilient, low-input crop for Switzerland's future agriculture. We're evaluating varieties for their suitability in Ticino, developing a VCU protocol, and testing processing quality for gluten-free pasta production. By combining agronomic, economic, and sensory data, this project supports climate strategy goals and opens new perspectives for local crop diversification by linking farmers with the food industry.

tiziana.vonlanthen@agroscope.admin.ch



● **Markus Wiltafsky-Martin** | Managing Director | Evonik Industries

Dr. Markus Wiltafsky-Martin works for Evonik as Director of Service Commercialization for the Animal Nutrition business. He received his degree in Agricultural Science from the Technical University of Munich, Germany.

Markus has been with Evonik since 2009 and has more than 16 years of experience in conducting projects with stakeholders of the animal protein business focusing on the importance of feed ingredient quality for the overall business.

In the last 12 years Markus has been working intensively on the quality evaluation of feed ingredients and on the translation of analytical data into valuable information for the feed industry via advanced data evaluations.

Intervention: In his presentation, he will go over:

- Sorghum as a feed ingredient for pigs and poultry
- Nutritional Value of Sorghum
- Energy and Starch
- Protein and Amino acids
- Antinutritional Factor Tannin

markus.wiltafsky-martin@evonik.com



● **Mohamed Zellama** | Founder and CEO | ORI Sorgho Smartfood

Mohamed Zellama is a impact entrepreneur, investor and food designer. After 20 years of activity in the industrial engineering sector (Building & infra management and Capex leader) within large international groups in Europe, Mohamed launched into impact entrepreneurship with sorghum in 2019. He is serial sorghum entrepreneur, a Board member of Sorghum ID and Co-founders of Sorghum United Foundation.

Intervention: ORI Sorgho group is building new pioneering subsidiaries offering innovative food and technological solutions with a holistic approach, focusing on ancient cereals, with sorghum as the leader. Our mission is to promote resilient and sustainable crops like French and European sorghum by selecting, designing, manufacturing, and marketing:

- Wholesale raw and semi-finished food products (raw grain, sprouted grain, pre-cooked grain, etc.) in B2B (feed & food)
- Finished food products (grains, semolina, biscuits, pasta, flour, etc.) in B2C / B2B2C
- Digital solutions for AI-assisted product creation and traceability
- Technical ingredients for various industries (yeasts, culinary aids, etc.) in B2B
- APIs and active extracts for various industries (nutraceuticals, cosmetics, etc.) in B2B
- Industrial equipment for primary grain processing in B2B

mohamed@ori-sorgho.fr



We have 1001 reasons to invest in sorghum



Contacts

- **SORGHUM ID**
www.sorghum-id.com

Martin Gomez

Communication Officer
F.N.P.S.M.S
martin.gomez@fnpsms.fr

Valérie Brochet

Sorghum ID Delegate
valerie.brochet@fnpsms.fr

- **FNPSMS**
maizeurop.com

Head office

21 chemin de Pau
64121 MONTARDON
Phone: +33(0)5 59 12 67 00

Paris office

23-25 avenue de Neuilly
75116 PARIS
Phone: +33(0)1 47 23 48 32

