

## Invited speakers:

**Peter Gregory, EMR, GB**  
**Tom Beeckman, VIB-UGent, BE**  
**Geert-Jan de Klerk, WUR, NL**  
**Einat Sadot, ARO, IL**  
**Xavier Draye, UCL, BE**

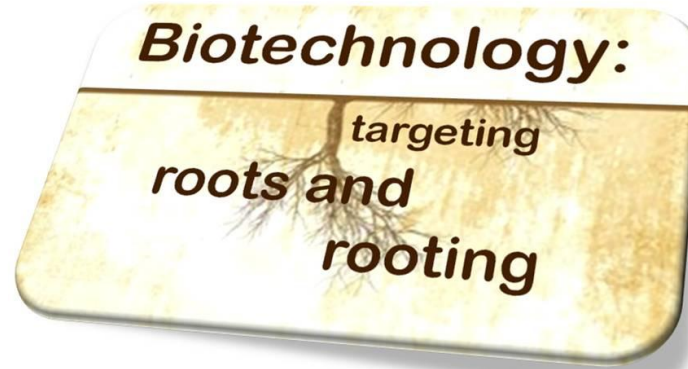
**Deadline for abstract submission:**  
**November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

Abstracts can be uploaded on the website ([www.bpba.be](http://www.bpba.be))

## Scientific and Organising Committee:

**Stefaan Werbrouck**, *University College Ghent (chair)*  
**Pascal Geerts**, *CRA Gembloux (vice chair)*  
**Ivan Famelaer**, *VUB (secretary)*  
**Tom Eeckhaut**, *ILVO*  
**Danny Geelen**, *Ghent University*  
**Jean Lathouwers**, *Erasmus University College*  
**Bart Panis**, *KU Leuven*  
**Evelyne Etienne**, *CEDEVIT, University of Liège*  
**Stéphan Declerck**, *UCL*

## 6<sup>th</sup> Symposium of the Belgian Plant Biotech Association



November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012  
9:00-17:00  
« ILVO, Plant Sciences Unit,  
Caritasstraat 21,  
B9090 Melle

Transport from and to the Ghent-St. Pieters railwaystation will be organised, please check the website for details.

## Sponsored by:



Sponsoring conditions:  
[Info@bpba.be](mailto:Info@bpba.be)

## Scientific Program

**09.00 Registration**

**09.45 Opening**

**10.00 Peter Gregory:** "Root systems, architecture and resource acquisition"

**10.45 Tom Beeckman:** "The molecular mechanisms involved in lateral root initiation in Arabidopsis"

**11.30 Short presentations by young scientists**

**12.00 - 13.30: Lunch & poster session**

**13.30 Einat Sadot:** "The molecular mechanisms involved in adventitious root formation in woody and herbaceous plants"

**14.15 Geert Jan De Klerk:** "Roots of rooting: physiological aspects of adventitious root formation"

**15.00 Short presentations by young scientists**

**15.15 Coffee break**

**15.45 Xavier Draye:** "Upscaling and systems dynamics: cornerstones in root research"

**16.30 Closure and drink**

## Registration and Abstract submission

Interested participants are invited to register at the website [www.bpba.be](http://www.bpba.be)

If you intend to present a poster or a short oral presentation, please upload a 1 page abstract on the website. All abstracts will be published on the BPBA website afterwards.

**The best poster will be awarded by the BPBA (250€)**

Abstracts in the field of plant biotechnology, plant tissue culture and plant breeding are welcome.

Registration fee: 30 € (15 € for students). This includes participation in the scientific program, lunch and coffee-breaks. Payment on desk, Registration also includes membership of the BPBA.

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## Biotechnology: Targeting roots and rooting

There has been a renewed biotechnological focus on root system enhancement and root induction. Root specific expression of genes has provided insights in crop stress tolerance, root system architecture, root-to-shoot communication, aquaporin regulation and nutrient transport. Root system engineering could grant new opportunities to maintain sustainable crop production under changing environmental conditions and resource-limited conditions. Molecular analysis and non invasive image analysis allows to model root architecture and water dynamics.

Adventitious rooting is a complex process and a key step in the vegetative propagation of economically important woody, horticultural and agricultural species, and is a critical factor for successful production of elite clones. It is well documented that auxins play a central role in triggering adventitious root formation, in combination with other plant growth regulators. Moreover a number of new molecules promise to enhance this process.

During this meeting, internationally renowned speakers will share their findings on different aspects of root biotechnology, that are extremely important for molecular biotechnology, plant tissue culture and plant production.