



We have 1001 reasons to invest in sorghum



#33 the tanins free one



#357 the limitless one



#28 the gluten free one



#25 the lipstick one



#66 the very Italian one



Congress
program
Budapest
2025

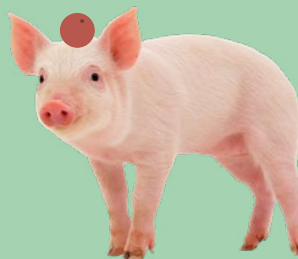
#954 the super caloric one



#87 the tidy one



#64 the popular one



#421 the united one



#79 the party one





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1001 reasons
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4th European Sorghum Congress Budapest

October 8th - 9th 2025

sorghum-id.com/en/seedsforfuture-congress-2025

Congress program Budapest 2025

Wednesday 8th October

09:00 Welcome coffee and poster delivery



09:30 Welcome speech

Opening of the Congress

10:00 Firsts speakers

Introduction, Sorghum sector overview and economic information

Pierre Guillaumin - Economics & international services | FNPSMS

Arthur Boy - Economic affairs officer | AGPM

Martin Gomez - Development Manager | FNPSMS

10:20 Round table

Success Story, Sorghum in Hungary

László Balogh - Crop manager | Lidea Seeds

Gábor Feczák - CEO | Agroszemek

Fazekas Miklós - Co-manager | Alfaseed

Dr. Kovács István Dezső - Director crop trade Department |

Kite Company

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

Martin Gomez - Development Manager | FNPSMS

12:20 Lunch



14:00 - 16:00 Workshops

Feed - Food - Diversification



Details on following pages

16:00 - 16:30 Break

16:30 - 17:30 Workshops

Feed - Food - Diversification



19:00 Cocktail and Dinner

Thursday 9th October

09:30 Welcome coffee and poster delivery



10:00 Poster Session

10:20 First speaker

Opening Sorghum ID

Martin Gomez - Development Manager | FNPSMS

10:45 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

11:45 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

12:00 Sorghum Lobbying to international Institutions, testimony and perspectives

Testimony of international lobbying for sorghum

Nate Blum - Chief Executive Officer | Sorghum United

Foundation

12:30 Lunch



13:30 Conclusion of the congress

Closing of the Congress - Sorghum ID

14:30 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

14:25 "Composition of the grain sorghum and it's use in feeding industry"

More information will be provided soon.

14:50 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 Vertical integration of feed production with sorghum

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

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

17:00 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 | Petfood United

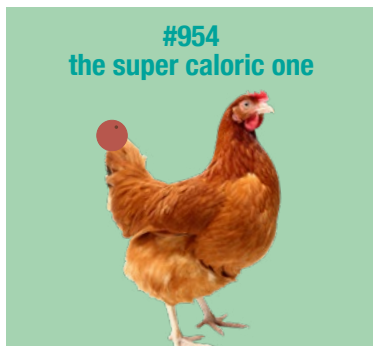
#33
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the white one



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the super caloric one



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the popular one



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 Gergács - 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



#864
the gastronomic one



#28
the gluten free one



#291
the sweet one



WORKSHOP DIVERSIFICATION

14:00 Sorghum as a quality summer forage

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

Fazekas Miklós - Co-Manager | Alfaseed

14:30 Bioenergy production, which variety to use?

Varieties ideotypes depending on final use, and Brazilian examples

Rafael Parrella - Researcher | Embrapa Milho e Sorgo

15:00 Biogas in Europe: focus on EU regulation

Short video: RED II and RED III European Directives, and link with sorghum as a resource

Online speaker - Grazia Vascello - Policy Advisor | European Biogas Association

15:05 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 Agriculteurs Méthaniseurs de France

15:35 Bioethanol: International overview

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

Francis Borges - Head of Sustainable Value Chain Projects | Advanta Seeds

16:00 - 16:30 Break

16:30 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 became popular in those areas?

John Duff - Founder | Serō Ag Strategies

Francis Borges - Head of Sustainable Value Chain Projects | Advanta Seeds

Rafael Parrella - Researcher | Embrapa Milho e Sorgo

Miklós Fazekas - Co-manager | Alfaseeds

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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.

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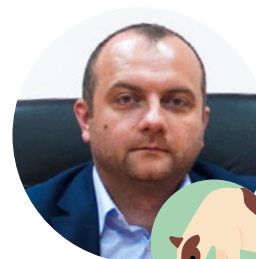


● Aurélien Amir | Co-Founder | Vieille graine

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 | Petfood United Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary

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 (it reduces palatability vs corn&wheat).

cristian.andrei@unitedpetfood.ro



● László Balogh | Lidea seeds

More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

laszlo.balogh@lidea-seeds.com



- **Francis Borges** | Global Head, Sustainable Value Chains | Advanta Seeds (UAE)
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.

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- **Arthur Boy** | Economic affairs officer | AGPM
More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.



- **Nate Blum** | Chief Executive Officer | Sorghum United Foundation
More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.



- **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.

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- **István Dezső Kovács** | Director crop trade Department | Kite Company
More information will be provided soon.

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?

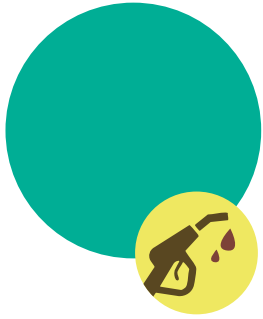
- High-impact economic and agronomic thinking
- Valuable insights for producers, cooperatives and manufacturers
- Highlighting sorghum's strengths in integrated supply chains, particularly in the context of sustainable transition

kovacsistvan@kite.hu



- **John Duff** | Founder | Serō Ag Strategies
John Duff is the founder of Serō 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.



● **Bertrand Duprat** | Farmer | Association des Agriculteurs Méthaniseurs de France
Farmer who has a biogas unit in the center of France and has been using sorghum as a summer produced livestock.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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● **Gábor Feczák** | CEO | Agroszemek Kft.
More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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- **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

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- **Martin Gomez** | Development Manager | FNPSMS
More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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- **Pierre Guillaumin** | Economics & international services | FNPSMS
More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.



- **Simon Le Fur** | Co-founder | Aventure Bio
Co-founder of the SCOP Aventure 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



- **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
More information will be provided soon.

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 what is feel is a hands-on, strategic and relationship based approach that centers on moving sorghum usage.



Fazekas Miklós | Co-Manager | Alfaseed

More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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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.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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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



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.

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

More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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Grazia Vascello | Policy Advisor | European Biogas Association

More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

vascello@europeanbiogas.eu



- **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.

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- **Mohamed Zellama** | Fondateur et PDG | ORI Sorgho Smartfood
More information will be provided soon.

Intervention: More information will be provided soon.

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