

GENETICS CLUB, ICAR-INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
XV GENETICS CONGRESS TRUST & INDIAN SOCIETY OF GENETICS
AND PLANT BREEDING, NEW DELHI JOINTLY ORGANISE

SYMPOSIUM COMMEMORATING BIRTH BICENTENARY OF GREGOR JOHANN MENDEL



The birthplace of Gregor Johann Mendel at Hynčovice, Silesia

Tending Mendel's Garden for a Perpetual and Bountiful Harvest



JULY 19-21, 2022
NEW DELHI, INDIA



Introduction

Fundamental principles of the physical world started yielding to human enquiry beginning the 15th Century, and major strides were made in explaining various natural phenomena during 16-18th Century. However, secrets of biology remained a mystery until the 19th Century, when an Austrian Monk, Gregor Johann Mendel, working with garden pea, unravelled the principles of inheritance. Mendel was far ahead of his time; his profound discoveries went unnoticed by his contemporaries including Charles Darwin. Fortunately, Mendel's principles were rediscovered independently by Hugo de Vries, Carl Correns and Erich von Tschermak at the turn of the 19th Century, which laid the foundation of the science of Genetics.

Mendel belonged to an ordinary peasant family. None during his time believed that the trivial-looking experiments he undertook with garden pea in the Augustinian monastery in Brno were to become a game changer in the scientific history of the world. His childhood training on farming and gardening perhaps prepared him to undertake the field experiments at an unprecedented scale during his time. Trained as a physicist and mathematician, Mendel was an empiricist who meticulously recorded voluminous data from individual plants. None before him kept the records of a series of experiments over generations to draw conclusions. In particular, his statistical treatment of the data on inheritance of traits proved insightful and path breaking. Spectacular progress in Genetics over the past Century has not only revolutionized agriculture and health sciences but also continues to spawn new, transformative technologies. Genetics has integrated all branches of biology and has unified the life on earth by a common and continuous thread. Today, genetics pervades all aspects of our life, and the power being unleashed by its technologies and tools calls for restraint on their unbridled applications.

This year marks the bicentenary of Mendel's birth (20 July 1822). To commemorate the bicentenary of Mendel's birth and to pay tribute to his breakthrough discovery which has immensely contributed to human welfare, the Genetics Club, Division of Genetics at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi in association with the XV Genetics Congress Trust, New Delhi is organizing a three-day symposium during 19-21 July 2022 at New Delhi. The symposium aims to review on the historical strides in genetics research and deliberates on challenges posed by new genetic technologies through invited lectures from leading geneticists, who have made seminal contributions to the science of genetics as researchers, teachers and/or entrepreneurs. It will also showcase recent discoveries and innovations in genetics and allied fields in the form of thematic presentations and reminiscences.



Venue

The venue is National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC), New Delhi, which can be reached easily from any part of the world. Considering the ongoing pandemic, the symposium will be organised in hybrid mode with an exclusive online handle to connect the participants remotely.

Weather in New Delhi

The weather at Delhi during July is expected to be hot with rains and average temperature fluctuating between 29.7° C (85.5° F) and 37.6° C (99.7° F). The average relative humidity shall be around 54%. Carry rain protection gears while on travel to Delhi during July.

Registration

Admission to the Symposium will be restricted to the registered participants only. Registration for participation can be made online at <http://www.mendelsym.in>. It is compulsory that both offline and online participants are required to pay the registration fee at the time of registration.

Registration fee

The registration fee for various categories are as follows.

Offline participation

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Faculty / Scientists | Rs. 8000 (India) | |
| Students / Research fellows | Rs. 4000 (India) | |
| On the spot | Rs. 5000 (Students) | Rs. 10000 (Others) |
| Accompanying person | Rs. 4000 (India) | |

Online participation

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Faculty/scientists | Rs. 4000 (India) |
| Students & Research fellows (outside Delhi) | Rs. 2000 (India) |

Important dates

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|---|---------------|
| Registration opens | 01 May, 2022 |
| Last date for submission of abstracts for posters | 15 June, 2022 |
| Poster acceptance | 30 June, 2022 |
| Last day for uploading the poster online | 10 July, 2022 |
| Registration closes | 18 July, 2022 |

Sponsorships

Five types of sponsorship are invited. Detailed terms and benefits for the sponsors may be obtained from <http://www.mendelsym.in>. Sponsorship fees are as follows.

Platinum - 25.0 lakhs Diamond - Rs. 10.00 Lakhs Gold - 5.00 Lakhs Silver - 3.00 Lakhs Bronze - 1.00 Lakhs

Accommodation

In campus accommodation for the participants is limited, and will be served only on prior registration. There are several hotels around the campus that provide different categories of accommodation. Participants can book accommodation themselves or by request to the Symposium secretariat. Expenditure for accommodation should be borne by the participants. For additional details please visit, <http://www.mendelsym.in>

Thematic sessions

SESSION 1: SOWING THE SEEDS – GENESIS OF GENETICS

(1850-1900) A historical journey to the Mendel's era. Glimpses of his work and wisdom. Status of contemporary science during Mendelian era

SESSION 2: BLOOMING – BIRTH OF A NEW SCIENCE

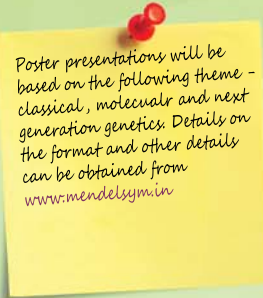
(1900-1960) Development of the genetics as a science. Origins of quantitative, developmental and molecular genetics

SESSION 3: BOUNTIFUL HARVEST – GENES TO GENOMES

(1960 – 2000) Genetics comes of age – Genomics, translational genetics and epigenomics and synthetic biology

SESSION 4: PERPETUITY – GENETICS TO SOCIETY

Impact of genetics on social welfare in the new millennium



Colloquium

The two day session will have informal gathering of geneticists around the world to reminisce the development of science of genetics, along with participations from budding talents from schools and institutions of higher education. Pre-run events will be conducted for selection of young participants.

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