Program Agenda

Monday March 15

- Session 1: **Opening Keynote Address**
  - Molecular Breeding of Forages in a Climate of Change: from Biomass to Bioeconomy
- Session 2: **Molecular Breeding, Functional Genomics and Molecular Genetics – Biotic Stress Tolerance**
  - Development and implementation of molecular genetic tools for enhancement of herbage quality and other agronomic traits in perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne L.*)
  - Identification of genes involved in bacterial wilt resistance of *Lolium multiflorum*
  - Differential expression of proteins related to resistance mechanisms towards spittlebugs in *Brachiaria brizantha*
- Session 3: **Molecular Breeding, Functional Genomics and Molecular Genetics – Abiotic Stress Tolerance**
  - Molecular breeding to improve tolerance to abiotic stress in forage grasses
  - Mechanisms of tolerance to saline stress in *Chloris gayana*
  - Enhancing salt and drought tolerance in transgenic *Lotus corniculatus L.*

Tuesday March 16

- Session 4: **Molecular Breeding, Functional Genomics and Molecular Genetics – Quality**
  - Functional genomics of flavonoid biosynthesis for herbage quality improvement in white clover (*Trifolium repens L.*)
  - Production of transgenic tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea Schreb.*) expressing a chimeric tall fescue NST repressor for improvement of forage digestibility
  - Quantitative trait loci of morphological traits and cell wall components in a F2 *Festulolium* mapping population
- Session 5: **Molecular Breeding, Functional Genomics and Molecular Genetics – Flowering and Reproductive Development**
  - Genetic approaches to optimized flowering and seed production in forages
  - Apomixis: mechanisms, research and the future isolation of apomixes gene(s) in tropical grasses
  - Genetic systems and exploitation of apomixes in the genus *Paspalum*
  - Isolation and expression analysis of a homologue of the Polycomb group gene Fertilization Independent Endosperm (FIE) in *Brachiaria brizantha*
  - Gene discovery and comparative transcriptome analysis in apomictic and sexual genotypes of *Eragrostis curvula* (Schrad.) Nees.
  - Map-based cloning of the Z self incompatibility locus in perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne L.*)
- Session 6: **Molecular Breeding, Functional Genomics and Molecular Genetics – Bioenergy and Bioindustry Applications**
  - Perennial grasses as feedstocks for green energy
  - Molecular breeding to develop cultivars for bioenergy and forage use
- Session 7: **Transgenesis and Biosafety Research**
  - Genetic improvement, field performance and risk assessment of apomictic Bahiagrass (*Paspalum notatum* Flugge) following biolistic gene transfer
  - Biosafety and risk assessment of transgenic forage and turf
  - Plant Breeding and Transgenesis in dallisgrass (*Paspalum dilatatum*) for enhanced herbage quality, yield and disease resistance

Wednesday March 17

- Session 8: **Comparative Genomics and Genome Analysis**
  - Analysis of the pangenome of the grass endophyte *Neotyphodium lolii*
  - Construction of a white clover linkage map and comparative analysis with red clover and model legumes
  - First linkage maps for improvement of subterranean clover (*Trifolium subterraneum L.*)
  - Using translational genomics to underpin germplasm improvement for complex traits in crop legumes
- Session 9: **Genetic Diversity, Genetic and Genomic Resources – Phenomics 1**
  - 40 years of genetic diversity studies: what have we learned and where do we go from here?
  - A survey of germplasm collection of *Brachiaria humidicola* (Rendle) Schweick. using microsatellite markers, cytogenetics, morphological traits and geographical origin
- Session 10: **Molecular Breeding, Functional Genomics and Molecular Genetics – Plant Symbiosis**
  - The *Epichloë festucae*-perennial ryegrass symbiosis: a fine balance between mutualism and antagonism
  - Lessons from the genome of the grass endophyte, *Epichloë festucae*
  - Molecular genetics of the symbiosis of forage legumes and nitrogen fixing bacteria

- Session 11: **Genetic Diversity, Genetic and Genomic Resources – Phenomics 2**
    - What about the phenome?
    - Origins of diploid *Dactylis* subspecies based on genealogical descent of molecular sequences
    - Genetic resources, genetic diversity and advances in red clover (*Trifolium pretense L.*) improvement

Thursday March 18

- Session 12: **Closing Keynote Address**
    - Paving the way for GM agriculture in Argentina
    - Closing ceremony
    - BBQ lunch and visit University of Buenos Aires – Faculty of Agronomy (FAUBA)

Friday March 19

- Field Trip to Pergamino and San Antonio de Areco

The International Organizing Committee has announced that the 7th International Symposium of the Molecular Breeding of Forage and Turf will be held in 2012 in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.