

Call for symposia proposals

SUBMISSION IS NOW OPEN FOR PROPOSALS FOR SYMPOSIA TO BE PRESENTED AT THE TROPAG2019 CONFERENCE IN BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA FROM 11-13 NOVEMBER 2019.

The deadline for submitting symposia proposals is 1 March 2019.

Symposium format

A symposium is designed to be a focused session in which speakers present on a common theme. There are five themes from which to choose, as listed below.

Each symposium will run for two hours and is to incorporate six speakers.

The symposium should consist of a chairperson briefly introducing the topic and introducing the session. This is to be followed by six individual speakers, each with an allotted presentation time of 15 minutes plus 5 minutes to allow audience members to ask questions of presenters and for an exchange of views.

The six speakers can be from any origin and may include a TropAg2019 keynote speaker. Please note a keynote speaker may present only one symposium address.

Conference registration and travel expenses

If your proposal is successful the symposium applicant, chairperson and speakers will be requested to register for the conference and pay the appropriate registration fee. Full Conference and single day registrations will be available via the on-line registration portal.

The symposium applicant, chairperson and speakers are to fund their own travel expenses.

Instructions for the preparation of your symposium proposal

Proposals must include sufficient supporting material to permit the Advisory Committee to evaluate the quality of and potential interest in the symposium.

Symposium proposals are to be submitted on the application form attached by **1 March 2019** via email to TropAg2019@expertevents.com.au.

The proposal should include:

1. Symposium title
2. Selection of the relevant theme(s)
3. A short descriptive summary of the symposium (200 words)
4. Targeted audience profile
5. Title, name, affiliation and country of the proposed speakers
6. Individual speakers' draft presentation titles.

After the submission

The Committee will judge the proposals according to its ability to address the themes of the conference. Applicants will be advised via email whether or not their symposium proposal has been accepted by **29 March 2019**.

Confirmation of symposium speaker names, presentation titles and abstracts

Successful applicants will be required to submit their confirmed speakers, presentation titles and chairperson names to the conference secretariat via email to TropAg2019@expertevents.com.au by Friday 31 May 2019.

Individual symposium presenters will be required to submit their final abstract, via the TropAg2019 website by 1 August 2019.

Symposia themes

Theme 1: Sustainable Field Crops

This theme invites symposia that will cover all aspects of tropical and sub-tropical field crop improvement with a focus on productivity, sustainability and product quality for target markets and consumers. This may include topics such as:

- Development and delivery of advanced germplasm and crop adaptation studies including advances in crop physiology and modelling; and genotype to phenotype modelling
- Crops and climate adaptation
- Pest and disease management
- Crop agronomy, crop nutrition, soil health, weed management
- New technologies such as gene editing and information technologies
- Decision making tools on crop production
- Sustainable intensification of agriculture – including pathways to achieve food/nutrition security and reduced poverty
- Farming systems research, sustainable development goals, research for development, and supply chain and market access issues
- Quantifying impacts and adaptation to climate variability and change; input and energy use and life cycle analyses.

Theme 2: Horticulture Innovation

This theme invites a series of symposia on initiatives and new technologies to deliver improved market acceptability and productivity for tropical and sub-tropical horticultural crops. This may include:

- Breeding programs that advance commercial varieties
- Delivery of new genetic solutions
- Climate adaptation
- Disease management
- Advances in mechanisation and management systems.

Theme 3: Animals and environment

This theme is inclusive of all tropical and sub-tropical animal science, and its interaction with the environment and production systems, including teaching, consultancy and community-based service programs. Symposia which address specific research of one to a multitude of industries, including the meat and livestock, poultry, pork and sheep, would be applicable. Symposia are invited on topics including:

- Advances in animal science promoting better animal health and welfare, efficient nutrition, genetic improvement, consumer satisfaction, and socially responsible production systems
- Pest and disease control through improved detection, monitoring and vaccine technologies
- Animal welfare and ethics including pain mitigation and animal husbandry practices
- Objective measurements of stress
- Genotype by environmental interactions
- Advances in genetics, breeding and reproduction
- Innovations on rumen efficiency, rumen microbiome, and maternal nutrition
- Feedlot nutrition
- Advances in pasture management
- Management innovations for sound animal productivity.

Theme 4: Breeding to bread and butter

This theme focuses on the whole food value-chain – from breeding through to our daily bread and butter. This theme encourages symposia that showcase the complete value chain, from breeding, production, processing to final food quality across a range of food types relevant to the tropics and sub-tropics. This can be from local (domestic systems) to global food production.

Symposia topics may focus on:

- Specific aspects of how plant or animal breeders develop crops or animals respectively, for both production gain but maintaining final quality targets
- Supplementation and bio-fortification of crops
- Nutrition and health
- Food safety
- Molecular basis for food quality, food processing and preservation
- Breeding
- Reducing wastage.

Theme 5: AgFutures—A showcase of innovation and investment in Queensland agriculture

AgFutures, hosted by the Queensland Government, focuses on showcasing agri-technology and investment in Queensland. Queensland producers have a worldwide reputation for producing high quality, clean and green produce in harsh environments in tropical and sub-tropical climates and the AgFutures theme showcases the state's latest technology and innovations in digital and data platforms, robotics, satellites and biotechnologies. Theme topics include industry-wide investment required for innovations, emerging trends, business opportunities and capital models from farm gate to agribusiness, agri-tech, processing and research. This theme is recommended for representatives from the agriculture and food sectors, including producers, researchers, policy makers, and agribusiness.

Proposal for symposium

Please complete all details below and email your application to TropAg2019@expertevents.com.au

Submission deadline: 1 March 2019

Key dates

1 March Symposium application deadline

29 March Symposium applicants notified

31 May Successful symposium applicants to submit final speaker names, presentation titles and chairpersons' names

1 August Symposium speakers to submit presentation abstract

Applicant details:

Name:			
Affiliation:			
Address:			
Office Phone:		Mobile Phone:	
Email:			

Symposium details:

Symposium title:	
Theme(s):	
Audience profile:	
Descriptive summary of the symposium (200 words):	

Proposed Chairperson:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	

Proposed Speaker 1:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	
Draft presentation title:			

Proposed Speaker 2:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	
Draft presentation title:			

Proposed Speaker 3:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	
Draft presentation title:			

Proposed Speaker 4:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	
Draft presentation title:			

Proposed Speaker 5:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	
Draft presentation title:			

Proposed Speaker 6:

Name: (inc academic title)			
Position title:			
Affiliation:			
Country:			
Email:		Phone:	
Draft presentation title:			

TropAg2019 Conference Secretariat

Expert Events

Tel: +61 7 3848 2100 | Email: TropAg2019@expertevents.com.au | www.tropagconference.org

PO Box 351, Hamilton Central QLD 4007 Australia | Suite 12, 137-143 Racecourse Road, Ascot QLD 4007 Australia