



UNIVERSITÄT
HOHENHEIM

Hohenheim NextGen Scientists Symposium

Event location: Schloss Hohenheim 1, 70599 Stuttgart

16 November 2026

09:00–09:10 Welcome address by the Vice President for Research, Early Career Researchers, and Transfer

09:10–10:00 The University of Hohenheim: An introduction by its three faculties

10:00–10:30 Developing your career at Hohenheim: Introduction on research funding

10:30 Break, followed by poster presentation

10:30–11:45 Poster presentation: Hohenheim projects, structures and services

11:45–13:00 Lunch break

13:00–15:30 Session on “Microbiome Research in Livestock and Agri-Food Systems”
(chaired by Amélia Camarinha Silva and Jana Seifert)

Nurdianti, Risma Rizkia: *In vitro* rumen fermentation and protein degradation: Roles of different microbial groups from different tropical forage mixtures

Shoaib, Muhammad: From Resistome to Mobilome: Genomic Insights into Antimicrobial Resistance in Livestock and Agri-Food Systems

Widenmann, Anna: Carbohydrate Metabolism and Microbial Niche Adaptation in Bovine-Derived Bifidobacteria and Lactobacilli

Wójcicki, Michał: From farm to food and gut: Phages as precision tools for microbiome engineering and pathogen control

15:30–16:00 Break

16:00–18:30 Session on “Diversity and Resilience Across Scales in Natural and Agro-Ecosystems”
(chaired by Karl Schmid and Andreas Schweiger)

Gerullis, Maria Katharina: Economics of Diversity: Ideas for the Governance for Multi-Scale Crop Genetic Resource Systems

Haleem, Ata Ul: From Genome to Field to the Researcher's Desk: Pangenomes and Machine Learning Approaches for Polyploid Crop Adaptation

Power, Candice: How local environments shape woody plant responses: From Arctic shrubs to agrivoltaic orchards

Tikka, Aapo: From Forest Structure to Biodiversity: Identifying Key Variables for Forest Ecosystem Modelling

from 18:45 Evening reception and networking

17 November 2026

08:30–11:00 Session on “Food, Nutrition & Health”

(chaired by Mario Jekle and Barbara Lieder)

Daniloski, Davor: From genetic variants to particle packing: Understanding structure-function relationships in dairy systems

Graf, Britta: Novel microwave-assisted extrusion for structuring protein-based foods

Moghadam, Maryam: Beyond Protein Nutrition: Exploring alternative protein sources and their potential in functional food design

Rugji, Jerina: Unlocking Whey Protein Phospholipid Concentrate (WPPC) for Next-Generation Probiotic Yogurt

11:00–11:15 Break

11:15–12:45 Infrastructure tours

11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.: **Phytotechnikum**

or

11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.: **Dietetics Laboratory and Technikum**

12:45–14:00 Lunch break

14:00–15:30 Infrastructure tours

2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.: **HolMir**

or

2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.: **CFH**

15:45–17:00 Research Funding Café at the InnoGreenHouse (Fruwirthstraße 24, 70599 Stuttgart)

19:30 Dinner

18 November 2026

09:00–10:45 Session on “Data-Driven Transformation of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems”

(chaired by Thomas Dimpfl and Christine Wieck)

Khanyile, Sthandiwe Nomthandazo: From microbial ecology to prediction: integrating microbiome, environmental and phenotypic data for sustainable pest management in African food systems

Maleki, Reza: Towards Globally Generalizable Cropland Mapping Through Spatiotemporal Representation Learning

Mantey, Vida: Governance of sustainable agricultural transitions: Power, inclusion and innovation in smallholder agri-food systems

10:45–11:15 Break

11:15–12:15 Session on “Data-Driven Transformation of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems”

(chaired by Thomas Dimpfl and Christine Wieck)

Mbah, Jasper: Prediction of Energy Consumption During Soil Cultivation Based on Scanning Methods (hybrid)

Oloyede Waliyat Olaide: Unlocking Underutilized Crop Value Chains for Food and Nutrition Security in Mpumalanga, South Africa

12:15–13:15 Lunch break

13:15–14:30 Session on “Data-Driven Transformation of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems”

(chaired by Thomas Dimpfl and Christine Wieck)

Reich, Charlotte: Levers for Sustainable Diets and Food Systems: Experimental Evidence and a Future Research Program

Rangel-Guevara, Andrea: Awareness and Acceptability of Sustainable Policies for Agricultural Transformation, a One-Welfare Approach

14:30–15:00 Wrap-up and Farewell