

First Announcement



## AAGB-2011

*5<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the  
Peanut Research Community*

*On*

**Advances in Arachis through  
Genomics and Biotechnology  
(AAGB-2011)**

**Brasilia, BRAZIL**

**June 13 - 16, 2011**



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*Organized By*  
**Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuaria  
(EMBRAPA-Brazil)**

*In collaboration with*



**American Peanut Council, USA**

## **The Peanut Genome Initiative (PGI)**

The Peanut Genome Initiative is a committed step by the international research community to meet the needs of the peanut industry through genomics and biotechnology.

**Background** The legume groundnut, an important oil seed crop, plays an important role in improving livelihoods, nutritional security and sustainability of agriculture in dry areas. In spite of its high nutritive value, its use in food products is low compared to the 80% of the total production utilized for oil extraction in Asia, particularly in India.

In the light of emerging challenges and opportunities this crop requires a new vision and strategy to improve its productivity and quality. With increasing demographic pressure and dwindling natural resources, the production of this grain legume faces a serious threat. To make the crop more profitable and competitive, emphasis needs to be placed on high quality food and value added products.

Aflatoxin contamination - a toxic substance produced by fungi belonging *Aspergillus flavus* and *A. parasiticus*, significantly influences the groundnut trade across the world. Increasing demand for edible oils and the uses of groundnut in industry are very diverse and relate more to local food habits. This will be influenced by income growth, particularly in Asia, and increasing health consciousness of consumers.

The international research community is faced with the responsibility of developing new groundnut varieties that meet higher quality standards and consumers acceptance. This can be achieved by improved communication between scientists and stakeholders. The Advances in *Arachis* through Genomics and Biotechnology (AAGB-2011) focuses on improving the productivity, quality and safety issues using modern genomics and biotechnology tools. The conference will be organized under well-structured technical sessions that will include invited lectures by eminent speakers in the fields of Genetic Resources, Allelic Diversity, Germplasm Enhancement, Genomic Resources, Comparative Genomics, Biotic and Abiotic Stresses, and Product Quality and Safety. A poster exhibition on these major themes will also be arranged during the conference. Excursions and sight seeing tours to some of the world heritage sites in Brasilia will also be arranged. The Organizing Committee is endeavoring to make this event scientifically rewarding and socially enjoyable.

### **Date and Venue**

AAGB-2011 will be convened from 13 to 16 June 2011 at EMBRAPA Genetic Resources and Biotechnology in Brasilia, BRAZIL. June, the beginning of autumn, should be cool and pleasant.

**Call for Abstracts** The Organizing Committee invites scientists/students to participate and make poster presentations at the research conference. A slot of 2 hours every day has been dedicated for poster sessions and discussion. Abstracts of maximum 250 words should be submitted electronically, in Microsoft WORD format, by e-mail to: [tom\\_stalker@ncsu.edu](mailto:tom_stalker@ncsu.edu) (please mention "Abstract for AAGB-2011" in the subject line of the mail). See <http://www.peanutbioscience.com> for format.

### **Schedule of important deadlines**

<b>Submission of Abstract</b>	<b>15 March 2011</b>
<b>Notification of Acceptance</b>	<b>10 April 2011</b>
<b>Remittance of Registration Fee</b>	<b>20 April 2011</b>

**Registration Fee (\$US)      Professional: \$300      Student: \$100**

# AAGB-2011

## General Program Organizing Committee

**Chief Patron** Pedro Arraes, Director, EMBRAPA

**Chair** David Bertioli, University of Brasília, Brazil

**Co-chairs** Soraya Leal-Bertioli, EMBRAPA, Brazil  
Richard F Wilson, The Peanut Foundation, USA  
Farid Waliyar, ICRISAT, Niger  
Xinyou Zhang, Henan Academy Agricultural Sciences, China

**Secretary** H. Thomas Stalker, North Carolina State University, USA

**Members** Rajeev Varshney, ICRISAT, India  
Tim Williams, USAID, University of Georgia, USA  
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Doug Cook, University of California-Davis, USA  
Xuanqiang Liang, China  
Ousmane Ndoeye, ISRA, Senegal  
Jose Valls, EMBRAPA, Brazil  
Victor Nwosu, MARS Inc., USA  
Howard Valentine, Peanut Foundation, USA

## Local Organizing Committee

**Members** Patricia Guimaraes- Embrapa- Brazil  
Marcio Moretzsohn- Embrapa- Brazil  
Ana Cristina Brasileiro- Embrapa- Brazil  
Simone Ribeiro- Embrapa- Brazil  
Guillermo Seijo - IBONE - Argentina  
Marcos Gimenes- Embrapa- Brazil  
Alderí Araújo - Embrapa- Brazil  
Ruy Caldas - UCB - Brazil

## Conference Secretariat

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