

### **Abstract preparation:**

The abstract must be prepared in the following format (please see the example below):

Use Times New Roman, font size 11

Single spacing between lines and 0 pts before/after paragraphs. Do not leave this setting on automatic. Please justify the text of the abstract. Present the abstract as a single paragraph and not exceeding 250 words. The Congress Organisers will edit abstracts exceeding the specified length.

First line: Presenter of the poster/oral presentation's name and surname, email address.

Second line: Indicate preference for poster or oral presentation.

Third line: Indicate field that the presentation falls under (e.g. Taxonomy).

Fourth line: Leave open.

Fifth line: Title of the abstract in bold text.

Sixth line: Leave open.

Seventh line: Authors. Indicate as author initial(s) (with a full stop between each initial) and surname. Separate authors using a comma. Underline the presenting author's name. Use superscript numbering (<sup>1</sup>, <sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup>, etc) to denote different affiliations after each author's surname. Only use numbering when authors are affiliated with different institutions and not for authors that are all from the same institute.

Eighth line: Author affiliations in italicised font. Use superscript numbering (<sup>1</sup>, <sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup>, etc) to denote different addresses at the start of each new address.

Leave a line open between the abstract details and the body of the abstract.

### **Example:**

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Oral Presentation

Plant Biotechnology/Plant Molecular Biology

**Resistance gene regulation by microRNA in *Diuraphis noxia* infested wheat**

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Wheat is an important food source in the world. Its production is challenged by the occurrence of plant pathogens and pests. In South Africa the biggest problems are related to rusts and *Diuraphis noxia* (the Russian wheat aphid). The interaction between *D. noxia* and wheat has been studied in depth at the gene expression level. There is, however, a lack in our understanding on how these genes are regulated. To further our understanding of this complex process we are studying the expression of microRNA during the interaction. These nucleic acids do not code for proteins but regulate gene expression at several levels. Selected microRNA from the interaction had resistance genes as possible targets for regulation. Several of the identified resistance genes were only reported from the wheat genome sequence and have not yet been deposited in other databases or gene expression studies. Three of these resistance proteins included DNA binding and protein-protein interaction domains bundled with the nucleotide-binding-leucine-rich-repeat domains. Expression analyses of both the microRNA and their putative targets displayed similar regulation profiles for the resistance gene transcripts. One miRNA, tae-miR8011a, displayed distinct regulation profiles between susceptible and resistant wheat near isogenic lines. One of its possible targets, located in the *Sr35* resistance gene cluster, also displayed differential regulation between the near isogenic lines, albeit not necessarily directly reflected by the microRNA. This study is providing information that will further elucidate our understanding of how wheat plants respond to pests.

**Poster presentations:**

- The poster format is A0
- Simpler is better. If you can say something with a graph, diagram, or picture, then don't say it in words.
- Posters will be displayed in a poster venue, and
  - Posters must be put up before the respective poster session. There will be a list with the specific location for each poster, as well as tape and/or tacks to affix your poster to the board.
  - Presenters must be present at their poster during the scheduled time for discussion and questions.
- Please place a face photograph of the presenter in the top right corner of the poster.
- Use an easily readable text font and size that is readable from at least 2 meters away, i.e. 16-18 pt.

## **Oral Presentations**

Please use the following guidelines to prepare your talk:

- Duration of normal talks, including questions: 15 minutes.
- The display format is 4×3 (DO NOT use widescreen).
- Ensure that the text is easily readable from the back of a venue.
- Use a minimum text size of 16 pt on your slides.