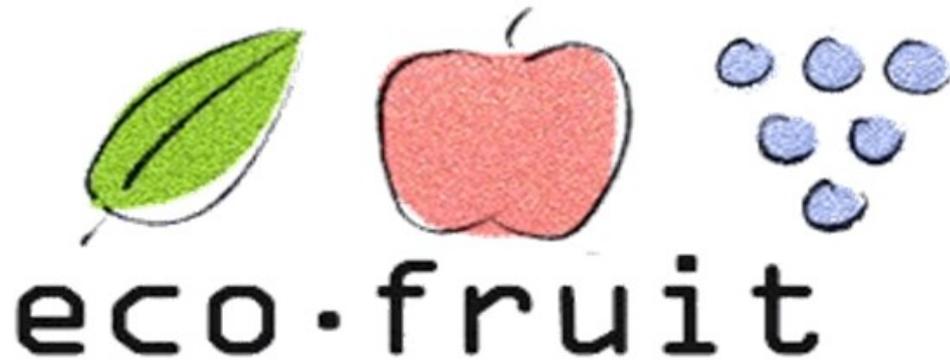


Programme



22nd International Conference on Organic Fruit-Growing

February, 23 to 25, 2026

Patronage: IFOAM ORGANICS EUROPE



Baden-Württemberg
MINISTERIUM FÜR LÄNDLICHEN RAUM
UND VERBRAUCHERSCHUTZ



UNIVERSITY OF
HOHENHEIM



LVWO
WEINSBERG



FiBL



Monday, February 23rd, 2026

10:00 - 10:30	Welcome addresses Prof. Dr. Ralf Voegele, Dean of the University of Hohenheim Peter Hauk, Minister of Rural Affairs and Consumer Protection Baden-Wuerttemberg Eric Gall, IFOAM Organics Europe Johannes Bentele, Vice President of FOEKO e.V
10:30 – 12:15	Session Cultivars (Pome Fruit) <i>Chair M. Friedli</i>
10:30 – 10:35	Needs and knowledge gaps in organic fruit breeding and variety testing across Europe: A survey study <i>C. Boutry, FiBL (CH)</i>
10:35 – 10:50	The European organic fruit breeding network initiative: A collaborative framework for developing more robust and resilient cultivars better adapted to organic farming <i>B. Dumont, CRA-W (BE)</i>
10:50 – 11:05	Combating late frost injuries in apple by variety breeding <i>F. Ruess, LVWO Weinberg (DE)</i>
11:05 – 11:15	Fire blight shoot testing of Swiss pear collection (SPCC) varieties <i>B. Scherrer, Fructus (CH)</i>
11:15 – 11:25	Swiss apple genetic resources under disease pressure: Results from a multi-year field trial <i>B. Hänni, Fructus (CH)</i>
11:25 – 11:30	23 new Danish apple cultivars from "The Apple Oasis" <i>M. Korsgaard, University of Copenhagen (DNK)</i>
11:30 – 11:35	Phytopathogens and stress tolerance in Greek apple and pear selected cultivars under the frame of InnOBreed Project <i>K. Koutis, AEGILOPS (GR)</i>
11:35- 11:40	Activities on breeding and use of varieties and genetic resources for organic fruit production in Austria <i>A. Spornberger, BOKU (AT)</i>
11:40 – 11:45	Presentation of the FRUITDIV Project: Exploiting the untapped potential of fruit tree wild diversity for sustainable agriculture <i>C.-E. Parveaud, GRAB, (FR)</i>
11:45 – 12:15	Discussion
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch break

Monday, February 23rd, 2026

13:15 – 15:15	InnOBreed Workshop: Development of the European Organic Fruit Breeding Network and co-construction of the European Cultivar Organic Evaluation Network <i>Introduction M. Lateur and B. Dumont, CRA-W</i>
15:15 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 - 16:55	Session Innovative Cropping Systems <i>Chair S. Buchleither</i>
15:45 - 16:00	Yield and fruit quality of the apple varieties 'Freya', 'Topaz', 'Natyra', and 'Delcored' after two years of agrivoltaic cultivation. <i>A. Bohr, KOB (DE)</i>
16:00 – 16:15	Effects of agrivoltaic systems on flowering, yield and fruit quality in apple, pear and plum cultivation <i>G. Ott, LTZ (DE)</i>
16:15 – 16:20	Inter-cropping practices to improve biodiversity can affect yield and fruit quality of organic strawberries. <i>E. Malusa, INHORT (PL)</i>
16:20 – 16:25	Use of service plants with fruit trees: Impacts on tree development and soil functioning. <i>M. Trouillard, FiBL France</i>
16:25 – 16:40	Mixed cultivar planting and biodiversity integration in an organic apple orchard: Early results from a Geneva rootstock field trial <i>C. Koenig, LVWO (DE)</i>
16:40 – 16:45	Mixing apple cultivars as part of a systems approach to manage apple scab (<i>Venturia inaequalis</i>) <i>P.J. Jansonius (NL)</i>
16:45 – 16:55	Discussion
17:00 – 18:00	Workshop: Mixed orchards as system approach: Dream or reality? <i>Chair G. Brouwer</i>
18:00	Dinner
19:00	Internal Meeting of the Organizing Committee

Tuesday, February 24th, 2026

8:30 – 8:45	Session Crop Regulation <i>Chair L. VonMetz</i>
8:30 – 8:40	Blossom thinning and pre-harvest defoliation with air in Natyra® apples <i>A. Gomand, PC fruit (BE)</i>
8:40 – 8:45	Discussion
8:45 – 11:10	Session Sustainability and Biodiversity <i>Chair F. Warlop</i>
8:45 – 9:00	Influence of seminatural habitats and management practice on arthropod biodiversity and pest control in Danish apple orchards <i>S.K. Jacobsen, Uni Copenhagen (DK)</i>
9:00 – 9:15	Semi-natural habitat contribution to Carabid beetle diversity and biocontrol potential in apple production <i>M. Bjelland, Norwegian Uni of Life Sciences (NOR)</i>
9:15 – 9:20	Effects of agricultural landscape heterogeneity on arthropod biodiversity <i>E. Malusa, RIH (PL)</i>
9:20 – 9:25	A new approach to estimate arthropods biodiversity in orchards <i>E. Malusa, RIH (PL)</i>
9:25 – 9:30	Flower reservoirs in organic stone fruit orchards to promote functional biodiversity: Monitoring plant establishment and flower availability <i>R. Muller, FiBL (CH)</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Assessment of contact exposure to biopesticide tank mixtures in different bee species under controlled laboratory conditions <i>C. Seidel, JKI (DE)</i>
9:45 – 10:05	Discussion
10:05 – 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 – 10:45	Biodiversity beyond the visible – molecular actors in apple cultivation <i>M. Hagemann, Uni Hohenheim (DE)</i>
10:45 – 10:50	How can local under-utilised varieties of perennial crops be attractive and profitable for farmers? Report on activities of the EU Cap Focus Group <i>F. Warlop, GRAB (FR)</i>
10:50 – 11:10	Discussion
11:15 – 12:15	Workshop Biodiversity Part 1 Innovative methods for monitoring mainly arthropods and their Pros and Cons <i>Introduction " An overview of emerging technologies for insect monitoring"</i> <i>Julie Koch Sheard, University of Marburg (DE)</i> <i>Chair J. Kienzle</i>
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch break

Tuesday, February 24th, 2026

13:15 – 14:15	Workshop Biodiversity Part 2 Designing agroecological structures in and at the border of the orchard: What do we know about the basics? <i>Introduction Michelle Fountain, NIAB (GB)</i> <i>Chair F. Warlop</i>
14:15 – 15:15	Poster Session
15:15 – 16:55	Session Disease Control in Pome Fruit <i>Chair N. Oeser</i>
15:15 – 15:30	Rapid mixing of <i>Venturia inaequalis</i> populations between IPM and organic apple orchards in the Lower Elbe region <i>Prof. Dr. R. Weber, OVA Jork (DE)</i>
15:30 – 15:40	Necessary plant protection input in several scab resistant varieties <i>S. Buchleither, KOB (DE)</i>
15:40 – 15:50	Susceptibility of scab-resistant apple varieties to various fungal diseases <i>S. Buchleither, KOB (DE)</i>
15:50– 16:00	First results of reducing sooty blotch on apples using specialized brushing technique after harvest <i>L. Schlittenhardt, KOB (DE)</i>
16:00 – 16:10	Unmasking the black spot mystery in organic apple cultivars and the path to effective control strategies <i>Y. De Ruyter, PC Fruit (BE)</i>
16:10 – 16:20	Epidemiology of <i>Elsinoë piri</i> , the causal agent of lenticel spot in organic apple production <i>A. v. Loosbroek, Wageningen University & Research (NL)</i>
16:20 – 16:30	First strategies for controlling Glomerella leaf spot and apple bitter rot in organic apple orchards in South Tyrol <i>L. Vonmetz, Laimburg (IT)</i>
16:30 - 16:55	Discussion
16:55 – 18:00	Session Soil Management <i>Chair E. Malusa</i>
16:55 – 17:10	Soil fertility in relation to management strategies in German organic apple orchards <i>B. Lepp, UHOH (DE)</i>
17:10 – 17:25	New bio-based super-absorbent hydrogels, a game-changing tool for organic vineyards water management and adaptation to drought <i>TH. Tiwari, UNICATT (IT)</i>
17:25 – 17:30	Case study on biological and chemical soil properties during the transition from intensive agriculture to an organic food forest <i>H. Ketterl TH Regensburg (DE)</i>

Tuesday, February 24th, 2026

17:30 – 17:35	Undersowing a Biofumigation seed mixture as an agroecological solution to soil fatigue in organic apple production <i>E. Lardschneider, VA Laimburg (I)</i>
17:35 – 17:40	Microbial inoculant success in soil: Native superiority and the importance of tracking inoculative species <i>L. Canfora, CREA (I)</i>
17:40 – 17:45	The Breath of Soil – Visualizing soil fertility and linking art and science <i>C.S. Weiler, UHOH (DE)</i>
17:45 – 18:00	Discussion
18:00	Dinner

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

8:30 - 11:40	Session Pest Control in Pome Fruit <i>Chair G. Brouwer</i>
8:30 – 8:45	The use of CpGV genetic diversity to overcome CpGV Resistance <i>J. Jehle, JKI (D)</i>
8:45 – 9:00	Development and validation of a new climate-driven phenological prediction model for codling moth, <i>Cydia pomonella</i> <i>T. Belien, PC fruit (BE)</i>
9:00 – 9:05	Monitoring of the success of extensive strategies and the use of sexual disorientation in small organic orchards of the Bologna Apennines <i>C. Buscaroli, Rinova (I)</i>
9:05 – 9:15	Discussion subtopic codling moth
9:15 – 9:30	The use of artificial shelters to control the apple blossom weevil <i>Anthonomus pomorum</i> <i>H. Helsen, WUR (NL)</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Control of <i>Anthonomus pomorum</i> (L.) with pyrethrins: Non-target effects of two application rates on arthropod abundance <i>H. Maisel, Uni Hohenheim (DE)</i>
9:45- 9:50	Apple and pear weevils: biological findings and insights for their control <i>C.-E. Parveaud, GRAB (FR)</i>
9:50 – 9:55	Decision support model for the control of <i>Anthonomus</i> weevils (Curculionidae) in pome fruit <i>T. Belien, PC fruit (BEL)</i>
9:55 -10:10	Discussion subtopic apple and pear weevils
10:10 – 10:40	Coffee break
10:40 – 10:45	Efficacy and bycatches of white sticky roller tapes for masstrapping of apple sawfly <i>Hoplocampa testudinea</i> <i>D. Betz, LTZ (DE)</i>

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

10:45 – 10:55	Trapping apple sawfly <i>Hoplocampa testidunea</i> on white sticky tapes in 2025 in three regions in Germany using different application methods <i>G. Esenova, Uni Hohenheim (DE)</i>
10:55 – 11:10	Discussion subtopic sawfly
11:10 – 11:25	<i>Trissolcus cultratus</i> as a biological control agent for <i>Pentatoma rufipes</i> L. in organic pome fruit orchards <i>H. Al karrat, Uni Hohenheim (DE)</i>
11:25 – 11:30	Optimized control of pear Psylla (<i>Cacopsylla pyri</i>) in function of their dynamics predicted by climate-driven phenological modelling <i>T. Belien, PC fruit (BEL)</i>
11:30 – 11:40	Discussion
11:40 – 12:15	Session Small Fruit, Wild Fruit, Part 1 <i>Chair C. Koenig</i>
11:40 – 11:55	Mass trapping of <i>Rhagoletis batava</i> in organic sea-buckthorn plantations <i>E. Malusa, RIH (PL)</i>
11:55 – 12:10	The Mulberry – Initial experiences with a fruit variety with potential for organic cultivation <i>A. Spornberger, BOKU University (A)</i>
12:10 – 12:15	Discussion
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch break
13:15 – 13:40	Session Small Fruit, Wild Fruit Part 2 <i>Chair C. Koenig</i>
13:15 – 13:30	Monitoring of gooseberry sawfly (<i>Nematus ribesii</i>) in organic soft fruit: Intensive monitoring with yellow sticky tapes and pheromone traps <i>R. Petré, PCfruit (NL)</i>
13:30 – 13:35	Evaluation of pyroligneous acid products as a potential repellent of <i>Drosophila suzukii</i> in Swiss organic cherry and raspberry production <i>T. Suard, FiBL (CH)</i>
13:35 – 13:40	Evaluation of the efficacy of magnesium sulphate against aphids in organic raspberry production <i>L. Caminada, FiBL (CH)</i>
13:40 – 13:50	Discussion

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

13:50 – 14:45	Session Stone Fruit <i>Chair A. Spornberger</i>
13:50 – 14:05	Comparison of organic apricot cultivation under different cultivation systems <i>C. Boutry, FiBL (CH)</i>
14:05 – 14:20	Organic plum production under weather protection <i>M. Friedli, FiBL (CH)</i>
14:20 – 14:25	Single-row netting of plums: A method to control plum moth, plum sawfly and leaf-curling plum aphid <i>D. Betz, LTZ (D)</i>
14:25 – 14:30	Effect of Weigi rootstocks on tree growth and fruit quality of sweet cherries <i>R. Vavra, VSUO (CZ)</i>
14:30 – 14:35	First Experiences with almond cultivars in the Neckar Valley under organic cultivation <i>C. König, LVWO (D)</i>
14:35 – 14:45	Discussion
14:45 – 15:00	Wrap up, End of Conference

Posters presented in the poster session

(Posters can be applied already on Monday morning and stay in the separate room for the presentation throughout the entire conference.)

1	Needs and knowledge gaps in organic fruit breeding and variety testing across Europe: A survey study <i>C. Boutry, FiBL (CH)</i>
2	23 new Danish apple cultivars from "The Apple Oasis" <i>M. Korsgaard, University of Copenhagen (DK)</i>
3	Phytopathogens and stress tolerance in Greek apple and pear selected cultivars under the frame of InnOBreed Project <i>K. Koutis, AEGILOPS (GR)</i>
4	Presentation of the FRUITDIV Project: Exploiting the untapped potential of fruit tree wild diversity for sustainable agriculture <i>C.-E. Parveaud, GRAB (FR)</i>
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7	Use of service plants with fruit trees: Impacts on tree development and soil functioning. <i>M. Trouillard, FiBL France</i>
8	How can local under-utilised varieties of perennial crops be attractive and profitable for farmers? Report on activities of the EU Cap Focus Group <i>F. Warlop, GRAB (FR)</i>
9	Agroecology Living Lab for Apple Orchards, South Tyrol (Italy) <i>J. Leithmayer, VA Laimburg (IT)</i>
10	Case study on biological and chemical soil properties during the transition from intensive agriculture to an organic food forest <i>H. Ketterl, TH Regensburg (DE)</i>
11	The introduction of pathogen-resistant varieties in organic viticulture: frontiers and challenges <i>T. Frioni, UNICATT (IT)</i>
12	The relevance of grapevine varietal diversity for the adaptation of organic viticulture to climate change <i>T. Frioni, UNICATT (IT)</i>
13	Vineyard physiological and productive performances after four consecutive years of cover crops inter-row and intra-row dry organic mulching <i>T. Frioni, UNICATT (IT)</i>
14	A proline-rich biostimulant enhances grapevine (<i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.) water tolerance to reduced irrigation volumes <i>H. Tiwari, UNICATT (IT)</i>
15	Interactions between the vine water status and differential effects of organic and inorganic nitrogen application on grapevine physiology <i>H. Tiwari, UNICATT (IT)</i>
16	Evaluation of the efficacy of magnesium sulphate against aphids in organic raspberry production <i>L. Caminada, FiBL (CH)</i>

How to arrive at the Conference Center

Your way to Tagungszentrum Bernhäuser Forst Dr.-Manfred-Müller-Straße 4, D-70794 Filderstadt, Phone +49 711 7 97 61-0 E-Mail: info@et-befo.de
Homepage <https://et-wue.de/unsere-haeuser/ev-tagungsstaette-bernhaeuser-forst/>

From Stuttgart Airport to conference house (see map):

- walk outside the airport-building to S-Bahn station
- take S2 direction Schorndorf, leave in Echterdingen (2 minutes)
- walk 2 minutes to Echterdingen station and there take bus no. 76 direction Degerloch ZOB
- leave the bus after about 12 minutes drive at Plattenhardt Waldstraße
- walk about 8 minutes to Dr. Manfred Müller-Str. 4, - Tagungszentrum Bernhäuser Forst

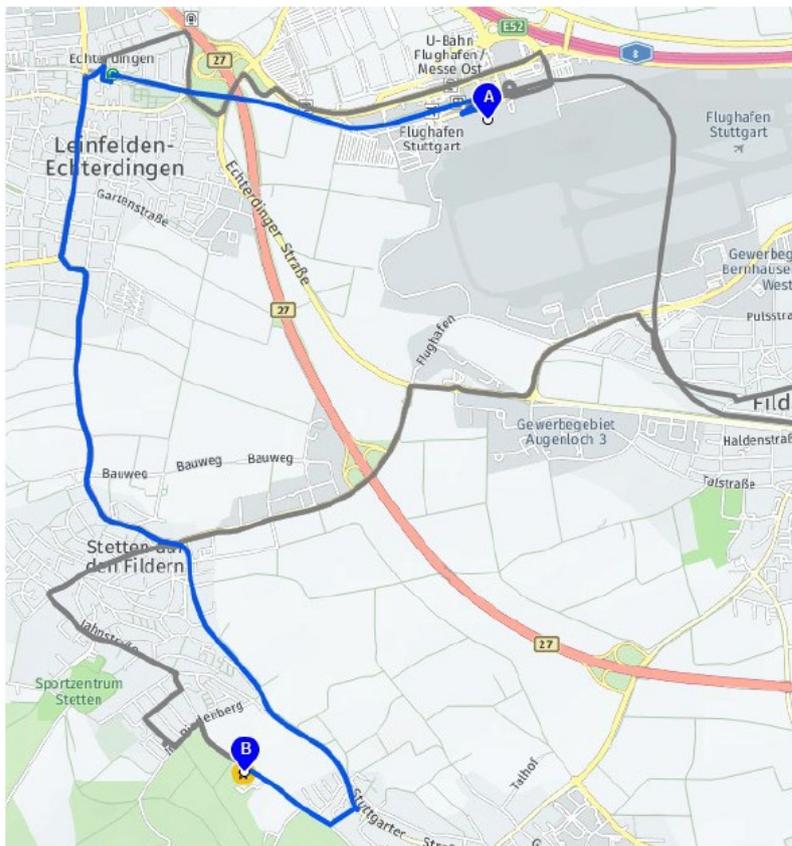
or:

- walk outside the airport-building to bus station Echterdingen Flughafen/Messe (SAB)
- take bus 812 direction Bernhausen Bahnhof
- leave the bus after about 30 minutes drive at Plattenhardt Waldstraße
- walk about 8 minutes to Dr. Manfred Müller-Str. 4 - Tagungszentrum Bernhäuser Forst

From Stuttgart main station:

- Take U5 to Leinfelden station from track 4
- Leave there and take Bus no 818 direction Stetten or 811 to Stetten-Erlach
- leave the bus after 22 minutes at Stetten Forststraße
- walk about 10 minutes to Dr. Manfred Müller-Str. 4 - Tagungszentrum Bernhäuser Forst

See the current situation at www.bahn.de or at google maps.



We made a reservation in a restaurant for sunday evening from 18:30 on:

Taverna Athos Gräbleswiesenweg 50, 70771 Leinfelden, <https://tavernaathos.de/>

You may walk there within 15 minutes (1,3 km) from the conference house.

