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## Invitation

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the organizing committee and the entire community of the Austrian Association for Animal Science and Production I am happy and honored to welcome you to the 76th annual meeting of the European Association for Animal Production, which will be held in Innsbruck on August 25th -29th, 2025. The overarching theme of the congress is "Future-proof livestock farming".

Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol, is nestled in a breathtaking Alpine panorama. The city combines nature, culture, science, and business, blending traditional customs with modern innovations. Innsbruck promotes diversity and has a high quality of life, with clear air, pure water, and state-of-the-art infrastructure. The city's economy is strong, and its universities are renowned and rich in tradition, keeping the city vibrant with over 35,000 students.

Austria is renowned for their diverse and high-quality agricultural products. The region around Innsbruck is particularly famous for its dairy products, with about 35 to 40% of the agricultural production value coming from the milk industry. This sector includes around 4,200 farms that produce approximately 350,000 tons of milk annually. The region also boasts 44,300 dairy cows, 2,376 sheep, and 6,075 goats, all contributing to the rich dairy heritage of the Tyrol.

Tiroler Bergkäse is a protected designation of origin for a traditionally produced, matured hard cheese made from the milk of cows that graze in the Tyrolean mountains. Similarly renowned are the Tyrolean bacon specialties, which acquire a distinctive aroma through the unique climate and traditional smoking process. Additionally, the Tyrol is known for its direct marketing of agricultural products, with over 4,000 farms selling their produce directly to consumers through various channels such as farmers' markets, farm shops, and home delivery services.

In addition, Austria is renowned for the quality of agricultural products, like beef, grains, and wines. The country's beef industry is an important part of its agricultural landscape. In addition to livestock, Austria also produces a variety of highquality grains such as wheat, barley, and corn that are crucial to the nation's food production.

Beyond meat and grains, Austria's winemaking tradition dates back centuries, with renowned wine regions like Lower Austria, Burgenland, and Styria producing worldclass vintages like the famous Grüner Veltliner. These diverse agricultural products highlight the breadth and excellence of Austria's food and beverage industries. Some of these production and marketing systems will be subject of technical visits organized at the end of the technical session.

Welcome to Innsbruck!

President Josef Wiesböck

## Committees

## Local Organizing Committee

#### Josef Wiesböck

Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Watermanagement (BML)

#### Julia Unseld

Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Watermanagement (BML)

Johanna Prodinger Association for Sustainable Animal Husbandry Austria (NTÖ)

**Roland Taferner** Association for Sustainable Animal Husbandry Austria (NTÖ)

**Stefanie Zottl** Association for Sustainable Animal Husbandry Austria (NTÖ)

**Reinhard Pfleger** Association for Sustainable Animal Husbandry Austria (NTÖ)

#### **Christian Presslaber**

Tyrolean Chamber of Agriculture (LK Tirol)

#### Christa Egger-Danner

ZuchtData EDV-Dienstleistungen GmbH

## **Scientific Committee**

F. Miglior	M. De Marchi	J. Maselyne
L. Pinotti	G. Hadjipavlou	G. Pollott (secretary)
L. Boyle	S. Millet	H. Spoolder (chair)
D. Kenny	R. Evans	
M. Lee	L. Gasco	

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## <u>Discover Innsbruck</u>

### Why Innsbruck

Innsbruck, the picturesque capital of the Austrian province of the Tyrol, is embedded in a breathtaking Alpine panorama. Nature, culture, science, research and business come together in Innsbruck and the Tyrol region: traditional customs meet modern innovations, old meets new, regional specialties meet international discoveries. Innsbruck promotes and lives diversity at all levels. The quality of life in Innsbruck is exceptionally high: the Tyrolean capital is regularly rated as an excellent place to live. Clear mountain air, the purest spring water, outstanding safety, high standards and state-of-the-art infrastructure contribute to people's satisfaction. The Tyrolean economy is one of the strongest in Austria. The universities in the provincial capital are among the most renowned in Europe and, with over 350 years of history, are also the richest in tradition. Over 35,000 students ensure that the city always remains fresh and young.



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### Places to see in Innsbruck

### A symbol of Innsbruck: the Golden Roof

The "Goldenes Dachl" in Innsbruck is an iconic landmark of the city. Built in 1500, the late Gothic oriel adorns the old town and is characterised by its roof made of 2,657 fire-gilded copper shingles. It was originally built for Emperor Maximilian I as a grandstand from which he could watch festivals and tournaments. Today, the Golden Roof houses a museum that offers insights into the history and culture of the Tyrol.



### Learn about Tyrol's freedom fighters

In 1809, Andreas Hofer led the Tyrolean rebellion to the Battle of Bergisel. The TIROL PANORAMA is an impressive 360° work of art covering almost 1,000 square metres and depicting scenes from the legendary Tyrolean fight for freedom. Visit the museum and combine it with a hike on the Bergisel



circular trail to Drachenfels to experience history up close.



### Centuries of splendour in the imperial residence

In 1500, during the reign of Emp-

eror Maximilian I, the Imperial Palace in Innsbruck was completed. The magnificent building not only served as the residence of the imperial family, but also fulfilled representative purposes. Over the centuries, the palace was remodelled several times. Alongside the Vienna Hofburg and Schönbrunn Palace, the Innsbruck Hofburg is one of the most important cultural buildings in Austria.

### Sparkling splendour

Over a hundred years ago, Daniel Swarovski (1862-1956) revolutionised the world of jewellery by developing a method of cutting and polishing glass in a way that it glitters and sparkles like diamonds. The Swarovski Crystal Worlds in Wattens, open since 1995, invite visitors into the fascinating world of these sparkling stones. Multimedia artist André Heller has created a unique place of fantasy: Ancient history and contemporary works of art come together in 18 sparkling rooms.

The exhibition of EAAP2025 will be located in the Kristall Foyer, a place that has certainly earned its name as it has a wall relief covered in thousands of crystals from the Tyrolean company Swarovski.



#### Spectacular views of the city

More than 133 steps lead up to the viewing platform of the Innsbruck city tower. After its construction in 1450, it was

used as a watchtower and offered a comprehensive view of the entire city. Whenever a threat arose, be it from enemies or fire, the citizens were warned quickly. Today, the viewing platform, which towers 31 metres above the ground, offers both locals and tourists wonderful views of Innsbruck and the surrounding mountains.

#### Discover the alpine flora and fauna



At Innsbruck Alpine Zoo, visitors can expe-

rience the fascinating animal world of the Alps up close and discover many rare Alpine animals. With its magnificent location above the city, the zoo not only offers unique insights into the diversity of Alpine fauna, but also a breathtaking view of the surrounding mountain landscape. A visit to the Alpine Zoo is an unforgettable experience for nature lovers and families alike.



### The exciting world of ski jumping

The Bergisel ski jump in Innsbruck has already hosted Olympic ski jumping competitions and Nordic World Championships and is part of the annual Four Hills Tournament. The ski jump impresses with its modern architecture by star architect Zaha Hadid and offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the city from a viewing platform with adjoining restaurant. Visitors can discover the historical significance of the facility and experience the fascination of ski jumping up close.



## Agriculture and Animal Farming in Austria

Austria covers a total area of 8.4 million hectares. According to INVEKOS (2022), around 30.36 % of the area is used for agricultural purposes. This area is made up of 1.32 million hectares of arable land and 1.17 million hectares of permanent grassland. The agricultural landscape is characterised by numerous family farms and small to medium-sized farms, which play a crucial role in Austria's food security. On average, a farmer in Austria cultivates an area of 44.9 hectares. Particularly noteworthy is the strong focus on organic farming, which makes Austria one of the world's leading countries in this area, accounting for around 25 % of total agricultural land.

Austria has the largest proportion of Alpine land of all Alpine countries, with 63 % of the country's surface area being high Alpine mountains. Livestock farming, dairy farming and forestry dominate in these regions due to the geographical conditions of relief and climate. Arable farming, on the other hand, mainly practiced in is areas north of the Danube, in Burgenland and in southern Styria, with the main crops being wheat, barley, maize, potatoes and sugar beet. Viticulture and fruit growing are widespread in climatically favoured locations, particularly in the foothills of the Alps, in Lower Austria and in the Danube valley.

Austrian agriculture makes a significant contribution to global food security, as shown by the high Global Food Security Index, which places Austria in 12th place with a score of 78.1 %. The level of self-sufficiency is also impressive, with grains (145%), wine (100%), drinking milk (178%), veal and beef (147%) and pork (108%) largely being produced in the country. It is important to note that around 70 % of Austria's agricultural land is located in less-favoured areas, particularly in mountainous regions.

Almost half of the country's total area, namely 47.9 %, is covered by forest, more than 80 % of which is privately owned. Around

145,000 families own forests and pass them on from generation to generation, ensuring the diverse and sustainable services provided by the forest in a long-term and responsible manner. The forest owners thus not only secure the habitat for animals and plants, but also the income for around 300,000 people. With an area share of around 46.2 %, spruce is the most important tree species in Austria, followed by beech with a share of 10.5 %. The country's abundance of forests has contributed to the development of modern forestry and an extensive timber and wood processing industry with a high export quota.

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## How to get to Innsbruck / Congress Innsbruck

As the capital of the Tyrol, Innsbruck has excellent transport connections by plane, train and car, making the city easy to reach both by public transport and by car. Within the city, you can get around comfortably and safely on foot, by bike, bus or tram.

## By plane

Innsbruck Airport is located around four kilometres from the city centre and can be reached by car in 10 to 15 minutes. It offers national and international flight connections, including several daily direct flights to and from Frankfurt, London and Vienna. In addition to scheduled flights, there are also seasonal charter flights. Thanks to its excellent location, the city centre is also easy and convenient to reach by public transport in only 15 minutes (bus line F), stop central station. Additionally, Munich Airport is also not far from Innsbruck. With numerous daily train and bus connections, the journey to Innsbruck takes just two hours.

## By train

Innsbruck's main railway station is an important hub for European north-south and east-west rail traffic. International long-distance trains from Munich, Vienna, Zurich, Venezia, Bologna and Verona as well as all regional trains stop at Innsbruck main station. Congress Innsbruck can be reached from the main railway station in just 5 minutes by taxi, bus or S-Bahn. Alternatively, you can take a relaxing walk that will take you to Congress Innsbruck in about 15 minutes.

### By car

A guidance system leads you easily and directly from the motorway exits through Innsbruck to Congress Innsbruck. The entrance to the Congress underground car park is right next to the main entrance (Herrengasse / Rennweg entrance). Two charging stations for electric vehicles are also available there.

## By tram & bus

Innsbruck has a well-developed network of trams and buses that connect the city and the surrounding regions. The lines cover the city districts and connect them with the main railway station, the airport and other central points.

Bus line F runs between Innsbruck Airport and Innsbruck Central Station (journey time approx. 15 minutes). From the central station, you can take regional bus line 540 directly to the congress venue's main entrance ("Congress / Hofburg" bus stop) or you can walk (approx. 15 minutes). Other bus and tram stops on various lines are also within walking distance of Congress Innsbruck.

## By bike

It is particularly easy to get around Innsbruck with the "Stadtrad" hire bikes. Simply register at www.stadtrad.ivb.at or via the "nextbike" app. There you will find all the details about the hire and return stations. Bicycle parking spaces are available at the main entrance and in front of the Haus der Musik.







# **Congress Messe Innsbruck**

Congress Messe Innsbruck (CMI), based in the Tyrolean capital, combines three exceptional event locations under one roof. The three venues bring people together to exchange information, products and services of economic, scientific and cultural importance.

- Congress Innsbruck: 13 halls and the functionally diverse foyers on 3 levels of Congress Innsbruck fulfil a wide range of requirements and can be used flexibly. The venue is suitable for international and national congresses, conferences and corporate events for up to 3,300 people. The venue's special features include its proximity to the Imperial Gardens, Innsbruck's old town with its alpine-urban charm, a crystal-clear alpine river running through it (the Inn) and encircling mountains.
- Messe Innsbruck: Located just a few minutes' walk from the Congress Innsbruck and the Imperial Gardens, Tyrol's largest exhibition centre is an easily accessible venue spanning an overall area of more than 56,000 square meters.
- congresspark igls: Around 15 minutes by car from Innsbruck's old town, the Innsbruck district of Igls is located at over 900 metres above sea level. The congresspark igls is Congress Messe Innsbruck's most extraordinary event location. Its location in a beautiful park and 360 degree mountain panorama will be sure to inspire you.



### **Useful Information**



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#### **Congress Venues**

Congress Innsbruck Rennweg 3 6020 Innsbruck Messe Innsbruck Kapuzinergasse 11 6020 Innsbruck

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### **Official Language**

We use English as an official language at the conference. There won't be a provision of translation.

#### Time Zone

CET - UTC +2h

### Climate

Innsbruck generally has a temperate climate, but with a partly alpine character. August is usually the hottest month of the year in Innsbruck. The average minimum temperature in Innsbruck in August is 13.5°C (56.3°F), the maximum daytime temperature lies around 27°C (80.6°F). Evenings tend to be cooler.



# **Sponsorship Opportunities**

EAAP2025 represents a unique opportunity for all sectors to demonstrate their commitment and responsibility in promoting the improvement, organization and enlightened practice of animal production by scientific research, the application of science and co-operation between the national animal production organisations, scientists and practitioners of member countries.

Early confirmation of your interest and support for the Congress will ensure a high level of exposure. An extensive promotional campaign including advertisements, direct mail campaigns, email broadcasts and web exposure will be implemented, and the opportunity exists for your company to be represented as a key sponsor of the Conference well in advance of the actual dates.

Sponsorship provides companies an excellent opportunity:

to promote your name, to support your brands and to maintain a high profile before, during and after the Conference.

to consolidate corporate relationships and expose your colleagues and organisation to key markets.

to allow your organisation to demonstrate its commitment to animal sciences best practices in business operations to a highly diverse and representative audience.

The Involvement in the Congress will enable you to associate your organisation with the global effort to foster the world EAAP community around common initiatives and projects.

For more information please contact: eaap2025@cmi.at

## <u>Scholarship</u>

EAAP every year offers up to 20 scholarships to young scientists to support their participation in the annual meeting. Young scientists are selected for the quality of the research paper they submit for the meeting. The 2025 winners will receive a partial support and the free registration to participate to the 2025 meeting in Innsbruck (Austria) on August 25th to 29th, 2025. We wish to congratulate all the young scientists awarded the 2024 EAAP scholarship and we are looking forward to meeting you in person in Innsbruck!

# EAAP YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD

EAAP will grant to early career researchers the "EAAP Young Scientists Award". All researchers who are born after September 1st of 1987 can participate. The candidates should be EAAP individual members and should have demonstrated outstanding research performance with the European dimension and perspective. The awardee will receive a plate in Innsbruck and will be invited to present a paper at the following Annual Meeting in Hamburg 2026 together with a free registration.

Nominations must be submitted to the EAAP office (eleonora@eaap.org) starting from January 2025.

The application shall be accompanied by the documents below:

- Curriculum Vitae
- European experience (if not in CV) such as participation in EU projects or benefiting EU grants
- List of scientific publications and of products (e.g. patents)
- List of eventual presentations at the EAAP Annual Meetings
- Letter of support by another Individual Member
- Eventual EAAP related scholarships received.



## Young EAAP

### What is the YoungEAAP?

EUROPA . YoungEAAP is a group of young scientists organized under the EAAP umbrella. It aims to create a platform where Edda scientists during their early career get the opportunity to meet and share their experiences, expectations and aspirations. This is done through activities at the An-FEZ nual EAAP Meetings and social media. The large cons-G stringing the tituency and diversity of the EAAP member countries, commissions and delegates create a very important platform to stay up-to-date, close the gap between our training and the future employer expectations, while finetuning our skills and providing young scientists applied and industry-relevant research ideas.



**Ines Adriaens** (President)

Jana Obsteter (Vice President) **Giulia Gislon** (Secretary)

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### YoungEAAP promotes Young and Early Career Scientists to:

- Stay up-to-date (i.e. EAAP activities, social media)
- Close the gap between our training and the future employer expectations
- Fine-tune our skills through EAAP meetings, expand the special young scientists' sessions, and/or start online webinars/trainings with industry and academic leaders
- Meet to network and share our graduate school or early employment experiences
- Develop research ideas, projects and proposals

### Who can be a Member of Young EAAP?

All individual members of EAAP can join the YoungEAAP if they meet one of the following criteria:

Researchers under 38 years of age OR within 10 years after PhD-graduation

Just request your membership form (ines.adriaens@kuleuven.be) and become member of this network!!!

# **STUDY COMMISSIONS**

Commission on Animal Genetics Commission on Animal Nutrition Commission on Health and Welfare Commission on Animal Physiology Commission on Livestock Farming Systems

Commission on Cattle Production

Commission on Sheep and Goat Production

Commission on Pig Production

Commission on Horse Production

Commission on Insects

Commission on Precision Livestock Farming



## **Industry Members Club**

EAAP started in 2023 a new initiative to create closer connections between European livestock industries and the animal science network. Therefore, the "EAAP Industry Club" was shaped with the specific aim of bringing together the important industries of the livestock sector with our European Federation of Ani-

mal Sciences. All companies dealing with animal production (nutrition, genetic, applied technologies, etc.) are invited to join the "EAAP Industry Club" because industries will have opportunity to increase their visibility, to be actively involved in European animal science activities, and to receive news and services necessary to industries. In addition, through the Club, industries will enlarge their scientific network and will receive specific discounts on sponsoring activities.

The industries that already joined the "EAAP Industry Club" are:



## The Club gives:

### Visibility

- Company name and logo at EAAP website and all relevant documents
- Slides with name and logo at Official Events
- Priority links with EAAP Socials
- Invite, through EAAP dissemination tools and socials, people to events organized by your company
- Information disseminated through a brand new Industry Newsletter

### Networking

- Joining the Study Commissions and Working Groups
- Suggest topics to be considered for Annual Meetings Scientific Sessions
- Organize Professional Panel through the EAAP platforms

### **Economic Benefits**

- One free registration to each Annual Meeting and at every meeting organized by EAAP
- Five individual memberships at no cost
- Many possible discounts (-30%) to increase company visibility through: EAAP Newsletter, EAAP website, EAAP Annual Meetings and workshops
- Support young scientist by sponsoring scholarships named by the company
- Co-Organize and sponsor webinars

Make yourself more visible within the livestock industry via the animal science network!

For more information please contact eaap@eaap.org

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# **Organizing Secretariat**



professional congress organisers

#### **PCO Tyrol Congress**

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www.eaap2025.org