



Maarten Koornneef

Maarten Koornneef, studied plant breeding at Wageningen University in the Netherlands and is since 1976 staff member at the laboratory of Genetics, where he obtained his PhD in 1982 and a personal chair in plant genetics in 1992. Since 2004 he is one of the four directors of the Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding research in Cologne, Germany. Koornneef has pioneered the use of Arabidopsis mutants in plant physiology by the isolation and use of mutants affecting plant hormone biosynthesis and mode of action, photoreceptors and e.g. flowering time. Later on he initiated the exploitation of Arabidopsis natural variation for plant genetics, resulting in many QTL detection and several successful QTL cloning papers from his laboratory. At present the main emphasis is on the study of seed dormancy and plant performance and the development of new type of mapping populations in Arabidopsis and barley. Maarten Koornneef is (co) author of more than 250 scientific publications and is elected member of the Netherlands, US and European Academies of Science.