



Zoltán Bedő

Plant breeder and director of the Agricultural Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Martonvásár, Hungary. He received research training in US public breeding projects in 1981 and 1982. He obtained a PhD in agriculture in 1983 and defended his DSc thesis in 1993. He was elected a Corresponding Member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2004. His international scientific and public activities have included acting as a consultant for the World Bank on a number of occasions. In 2000 he was granted the right to organise the 6th International Wheat Conference, and he was awarded the Justus von Liebig Prize endowed by the Alfred Toepfer Foundation in Hamburg, Germany in 2004. He was elected as President of the European Association for Plant Breeding Research, EUCARPIA in 2008. His first research field involved investigations on models of plant adaptability, after which he analysed populations of old Hungarian wheat varieties with biochemical and molecular markers. One of his main endeavours was to combine the use of molecular and conventional plant breeding methods. He is currently involved in the Healthgrain FP6 project, analysing the genetic variability of the nutritive components of cereal grains, and in the BIOEXPLOIT project. In recognition of results achieved in plant breeding he received an Academy Award from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He won an Oscar from the International Federation of Inventors' Associations, and the Knight's Cross of the Hungarian Republic for his work in improving cereal production.