



Your CEPAMS Newsletter - November 2023

Introduction

CEPAMS, An Excellent Platform for Academic Exchange.

CEPAMS was built on trust and friendship with a strong history of scientific links between JIC and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Its objectives include excellent collaborative research projects; recruiting high-performing research leaders and research groups; holding high-calibre scientific meetings and developing staff and students through a UK-China exchange.

CEPAMS provides an outstanding international training environment and communication platform for the very best scientists of the future. Exchanges between personnel and the annual CEPAMS symposium have been further strengthening the ties between scientists from the UK and China.

We were glad to see 26 CEPAMS delegates from China travelling to Norwich to attend the JIC Annual Science Meeting in October. They were fortunate to hear about cutting-edge research, meet world-leading scientists, explore future collaborations, make new friends and experience a different culture there in the UK.

Clearly, it was a fruitful visit. We hope that such scientific exchanges between the UK and China will become more and more active. We hope that more researchers in CEPAMS can achieve their careers on this platform. And more young talents from all over the world are welcome to join in CEPAMS.

Professor Xiaofeng Cao, Co-director CEPAMS

Events Coming Up

- November [Seminars at CEMPS](#) (Shanghai)
November [Seminars at IGDB](#) (Beijing)
November [Friday Seminars at JIC](#) (Norwich)
18-20 March 2024 CEPAMS Symposium (Hainan, China)
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CEPAMS Publications



[Kameoka et al. \(2023\)](#). *Dienelactone hydrolase like protein1* negatively regulates the KAI2-ligand pathway in *Marchantia polymorpha*.

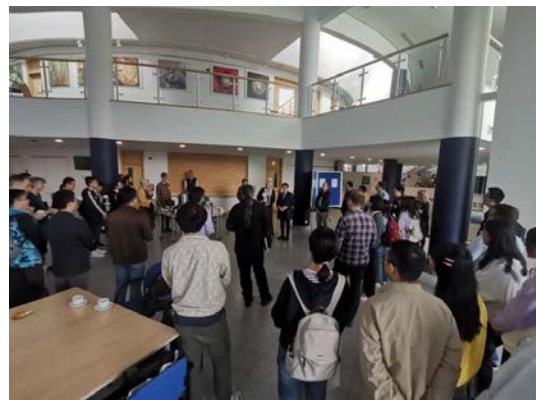
[Li et al. \(2023\)](#). Genome evolution and initial breeding of the Triticeae grass *Leymus chinensis* dominating the Eurasian Steppe.

[Liu et al. \(2023\)](#). A high-resolution genotype–phenotype map identifies the *TaSPL17* controlling grain number and size in wheat.

[Yao et al. \(2023\)](#). High air humidity dampens salicylic acid pathway and NPR1 function to promote plant disease.

[Zhang et al. \(2023\)](#). Type I MADS-box transcription factor TaMADS-GS regulates grain size by stabilizing cytokinin signalling during endosperm cellularization in wheat.

CEPAMS in the UK



In October, 26 CEPAMS Group Leaders, postdocs and students travelled to the UK for the John Innes Centre's Annual Science Meeting. Here are some of the highlights of a very successful visit.

- Over 30 formal 1:1 meetings between CEPAMS Group Leaders and JIC/TSL Group Leaders, exploring future collaborations.
- Four concurrent discussion groups held on themes such as Plant Microbe Interaction, Crop Genomics and Breeding, Plant Growth and Development, and Nature Products and Metabolism.

- Many more fruitful discussions held informally over lunch, dinner and in social settings.
 - Jun Xiao presented his research on nitrogen signalling at the conference.
 - Guodong Hao, Kehui Zhu and Xuemei Liu all presented posters.
 - The CEPAMS group spent a day exploring Cambridge, including a tour of The Sainsbury Laboratory Cambridge University.
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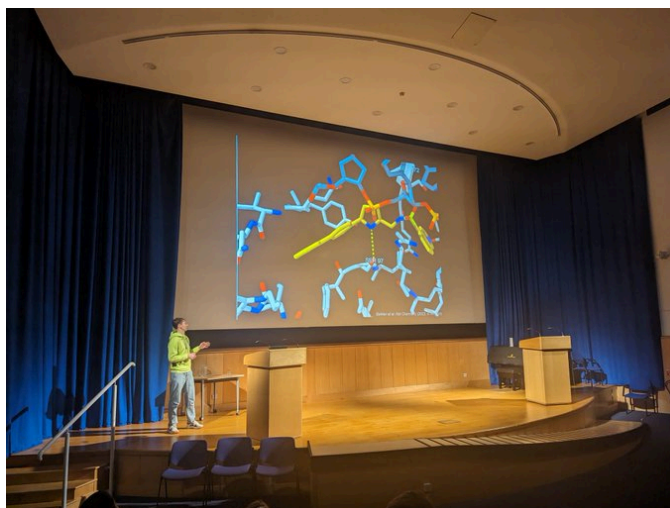
CEPAMS News



[UKRI visits CEPAMS in Beijing](#)



[Xiaofeng Cao presents at "Women in Science Forum"](#)



Conferences, Seminars and Projects

Several of you have been presenting at conferences and seminars.

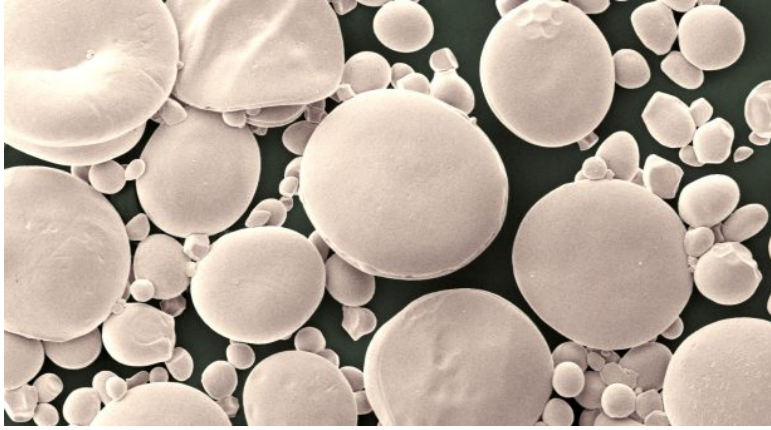
- Jeremy Murray presented his research at the European Nitrogen Fixation Conference (ENFC) in Naples Italy.

- Yu Zhang was at Imperial College London and gave a seminar on *How do RNA polymerases terminate transcription in bacteria and yeast*.
 - Jeremy Murray gave two talks at the University of Munich (LMU).
 - Dr Hiromu Kameoka was at [The 6th international Molecular Mycorrhiza Meeting](#) in Cambridge UK and presented his research on *Plant-derived compounds that induce symbiotic responses in AM fungi*.
 - Dr Jeremy Murray presented his work at the Plant Genomics Conference XXII in Taiyuan, China.
 - Xiufang Xin presented her research at the 2023 Annual Science Meeting of Plant-Pathogen/Virus interactions in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, China.
 - The Murray Lab have created a model of the [rhizobia-infected root hair](#) for a Science Expo in Shanghai.
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CAS Visits JIC



Professors Xiangdong Fu and Yongbiao Xue [visited JIC](#). They both presented their research at a specially convened seminar and met with Group Leaders and Senior Scientists across two days.



Collaborations

CEPAMS scientists have been busy collaborating with scientists around the world, including:

- Hiromu Kameoka, who was in Norwich meeting with Andrew Truman, Anne Osbourn and Barrie Wilkinson, discussing specialised metabolites of AM fungi.
- Jeremy Murray is working with Dr Marwa Batnini, a visiting scientist from Tunisia, on transcriptional regulation of leghemoglobins over the next six months.

Awards and Funding

- Xiufang Xin was recently awarded "The National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars" from the National Natural Science Foundation of China.
 - Many congratulations to Xiufang Xin who received the [Early Career Achievement Award](#) from the International Society for Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions (IS-MPMI).
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Apply for PIFI Funding



The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) President's International Fellowship Initiative, PIFI, is a funding program designed to establish scientific cooperation and promote research communication around the globe. It is open to all scientific research personnel worldwide.

To find out how your visit to China could be funded, [click here](#).

For more information, [contact](#) Lei Qi (CEPAMS, Beijing campus) or Nan Lin (CEPAMS Shanghai campus).

Share your science

We'd love to celebrate your science in the CEPAMS newsletter. Please [email us](#) with any information on activities or achievements you've had, including:

- Recent events you've been involved in.
 - Awards that you or colleagues have received.
 - Podcasts or seminars you have given.
 - Virtual events you have attended or would like to be advertised.
 - Interactions with external people on your science and projects.
 - Industry interactions and collaborations.
 - Articles you have published.
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