



Your CEPAMS Newsletter - May 2025

Introduction

Just a few weeks ago we welcomed over two hundred invited guests to the 2025 CEPAMS Symposium in Shanghai, China. It was wonderful to meet old friends and be introduced to new colleagues.

In this newsletter we celebrate a successful conference and look at some exciting research happening across our four institutes (CEMPS, IGDB, JIC, TSL).

There is also information on current funding and scientific opportunities for you to collaborate on new research with others across our institutes. Enjoy the newsletter!



Prof. Bin Han
Director of CEMPS

Upcoming Grants & Awards



Grant: **PIFI**

Status: **Open**

LEVERHULME
TRUST _____

Grant: **Visiting Professorships**

Status: **Closes 02 October 2025**



Grant: **International Travel Award**

Status: **Closes 30 September 2025**



Grant: **International Exchanges**

Status: **Closes 04 June 2025**

Spotlight on...



Fei Lu

Group Leader, IGDB

Interested in:

Maize and wheat

Quantitative genetics



Qihua Ling

Group Leader, CEMPS

Interested in:

Chloroplasts

Events Coming Up

Summer 2025	<u>Seminars at CEMPS (Shanghai)</u>
Summer 2025	<u>Seminars at IGDB (Beijing)</u>
Summer 2025	<u>Friday Seminars at JIC (Norwich)</u>

CEPAMS Symposium 2025, Shanghai



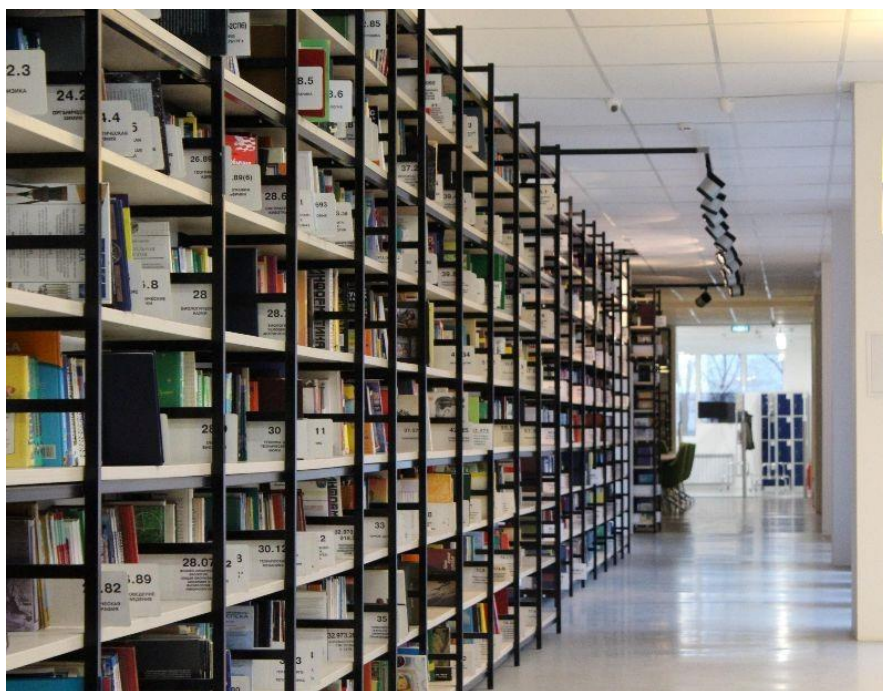
On 23-25 April, the Center for Excellence in Molecular Plant Science (CEMPS) in Shanghai generously hosted over 240 delegates from CEMPS, IGDB, JIC and TSL for the annual CEPAMS Symposium.

After welcome and introductory remarks from Bin Han, Xiaofeng Cao and Caroline Dean, a plenary talk was given by Sanwen Huang from the Chinese Academy of Tropical Sciences.

Over two days, there were talks from principal investigators and flash talks from early career researchers. Discussions were held in four breakout groups, where delegates were briefed on annual grant opportunities and explored collaborative opportunities.

[Please click here for more pictures from the symposium.](#)

CEPAMS Publications



[Huang et al. 2025](#). ROS burst prolongs transcriptional condensation to slow shoot apical meristem maturation and achieve heat-stress resilience in tomato.

[Huang & Xu, 2025](#). Reviving the charm of a century-old classic theory: Engineering source-sink relations to breed climate-smart crops.

[Li et al. 2025](#). Spatiotemporal transcriptomics reveals key gene regulation for grain yield and quality in wheat.

[Luo et al.](#) The location and genome origin of alien chromatin in wheat founder parent Xiaoyan 6.

[Ma et al. 2025](#). A comprehensive map of DNA-segment copy number variation in 491 genomes of common wheat uncovers genes associated with multiple agronomic traits.

[Wang et al. 2025](#). Integrated Transcriptomic and Metabolomic Analysis Reveals Tissue-Specific Flavonoid Biosynthesis and MYB-Mediated Regulation of UGT71A1 in *Panax quinquefolius*.

[Zhang et al. 2025](#). Unveiling the regulatory role of GRP7 in ABA signal-mediated mRNA translation efficiency regulation.

[Zhu et al. 2025](#). Dynamic control of H2A.Zub and H3K27me3 by ambient temperature during cell fate determination in *Arabidopsis*.

Conferences and Collaborations

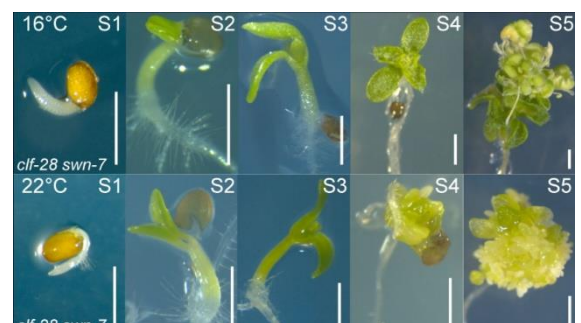


- A funded wheat collaboration involving all four CEPAMS institutes had their first in-person meeting in Shanghai (pictured above). Fei He introduced the project plan to the team with agreed milestones every 6 months to push the project forward. Attendees included Fei He, Jun Xiao, Yusheng Zhao, Yazhong Wang, Jonathan Jones, Chen Ji, Rose McNelly, Cristobal Uauy, Yajun Wang and Wei Wang.
- Fei Lu (IGDB) presented his group's research at PAG32 in San Diego. His presentation was titled "Mapping evolutionary constraint of bread wheat using Triticeae genomes".
- Hiromu Kameoka's group (CEMPS) has recently begun a collaboration with Jian Feng's group (IGDB). They will generate *Marchantia paleacea* mutants with interesting traits.

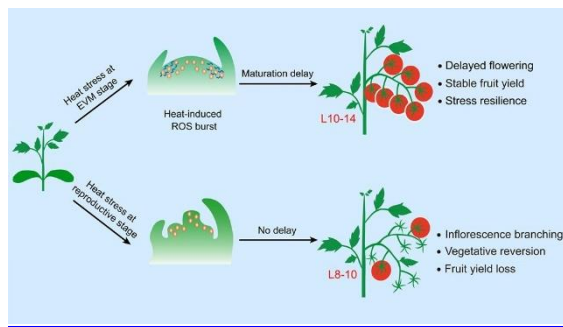
CEPAMS News



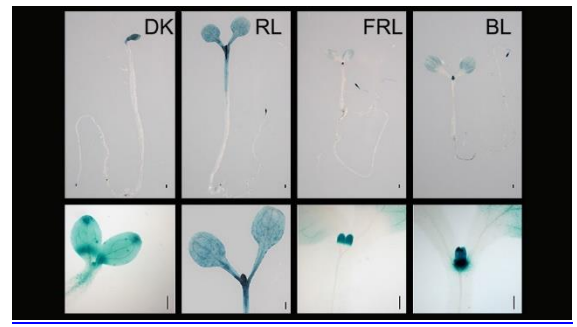
UK-China Plant Science Symposium
Forges New Research Partnerships



Temperature Steers Plant Cell Fate
Through Epigenetic Reprogramming



Tomato Plants Delay Shoot Meristem Maturation to Achieve Heat-Stress Resilience



Scientists Reveal Epigenetic Regulation of Photomorphogenesis in Plants



Near-Complete Genome Assembly of Chinese Spring Paves the Way for Future Wheat Breeding



Ribosome-associated Quality Control Regulates Critical Sterility-inducing Temperature in Rice

Caroline Dean in Beijing



In an extended visit to China, Caroline Dean met with CEPAMS group leaders and students at the Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology (IGDB) in Beijing to discuss their research.

Wenbo Ma at IDGB



Wenbo Ma (TSL) gave a CEPAMS Seminar at IGDB in Beijing. Many researchers and students from IGDB, the Institute of Microbiology and the Institute of Zoology attended the seminar. Her presentation title was "Defense and counter-defense in small RNA-mediated plant immunity".



CEPAMS Group Leader Positions

CEPAMS is recruiting for Group Leaders in Shanghai and Beijing.

This important role will give you the financial support and freedom to advance your own original research programmes in a collaborative and supportive environment.

Our research makes use of a wide range of disciplines in the biological and chemical sciences including cell biology, biochemistry, chemistry, genetics and molecular biology.

If you wish to apply, please send your CV, research proposal, and three letters of recommendation to cepams@genetics.ac.cn and nlin@cemps.ac.cn.

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.

