

Press Release Donau Soja Vienna/Austria, Thursday, 9. March 2023

World Soybean Research Conference for the first time in Europe All around soya: Science meets business in Vienna

For one week from 18 to 23 June, Vienna will be the centre of science, economy and politics around global soya-related issues. Hundreds of scientists, feed and food producers, processors and soya experts from all over the world will meet for the first time in Europe for the 11th World Soybean Research Conference (WSRC11). Soybeans were first introduced to a world audience 150 years ago in the Japanese and Chinese pavilions at the World Exhibition in Vienna in 1873 - this was an important milestone on the way to one of the world's most important crops.

The broad range of topics at the WSRC11 extends from the latest findings in science to market developments and the Protein Transition in Europe, as well as sustainability issues from climate protection to the current EU supply chain legislation process. The conference is organised by the WSRC Scientific Committee led by Prof. Johann Vollmann of the Austrian University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) and the organisation Donau Soja.

The conference will send out an impulse to make soya a force for climate protection and positive global change, given that huge cultivation areas in South America destroy primeval forests and thus contribute to climate change. Today, Europe and China are the largest importers of soya, mostly for the production of animal feed. But soya can also be grown regionally and in a climate-friendly way, certified and produced without deforestation. Donau Soja aims to achieve a sustainable Protein Transition by 2030, making Europe more resilient in supplying protein to Europe's population.

The international guests can expect an extensive 6-day programme at the Vienna Austria Center. The major thematic blocks at the conference will be: Breeding, crop production and crop protection, the use of soya as food and feed, processing technologies, market development and policy topics. On 19 June, the conference participants are invited to a "Night of European Soy" with food producers at the World Museum. A gala evening hosted by the Mayor of Vienna in the Vienna City Hall and several excursions on the last day will round off the conference.

Media support and press accreditation will be provided by Donau Soja. There is a cooperation with the Austrian Association of Agricultural Journalists (VAÖ) and the European Network of Agricultural Journalists (ENAJ). Within this cooperation, journalists from European countries can be accredited to the conference and take part in several excursions around Vienna. Independent accreditations are also possible. Further information on the organisation and programme of the conference: WSRC11.

About Donau Soja

Donau Soja is a non-profit, independent association who supports its partners and members in progressing change to address social, environmental, and economic challenges in soya, legumes and protein production and consumption. This will increase efficiency, fairness and sustainability in European food and feed protein value chains.

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