2026

NATIONAL FUSARIUM HEAD BLIGHT FORUM

PROGRAM BOOK



DECEMBER 7–9 • LOUISVILLE, KY

WELCOME

2026 NATIONAL FHB FORUM

The USWBSI is dedicated to offering this valuable opportunity for the FHB community to come together to foster dialogue and advance scientific knowledge on the latest insights regarding the impact of Fusarium head blight (scab) and deoxynivalenol (DON) on wheat and barley.

USWBSI FORUM ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (FOC)

Co-Chairs

Lisa Vaillancourt, University of Kentucky and Eric Olson, Michigan State University

Members

FHB Management

Alyssa Collins, Pennsylvania State University, Kathryn Turner, Land Institute and Christina Cowger, USDA-ARS

Food Safety & Toxicology

Mark Busman, USDA-ARS and Zhao Jin, North Dakota State University

Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance

Vijay Tiwari, University of Maryland and Rong Di, Rutgers University

Pathogen Biology and Genetics

Mickey Drott, USDA-ARS and Nicholas Rhoades, USDA-ARS

Variety Development and Host Resistance

Mike Giroux, Montana State University and Junli Zhang, Texas A&M University

QUICK TIPS

- Your **name badge** serves as your ticket for the following food functions, make sure to wear it at all times.
- A small meeting room is open for use during the Forum, check in at registration for availability.
- The USWBSI is dedicated to providing a harassment-free meeting experience, all attendees are expected to comply with the USWBSI Code of Conduct.
- Photos will be taken during the Forum, by registering you agree to allow USWBSI to use your photo in various publications.
- Check out the Virtual Poster Room in addition to the onsite posters with QR code.
- An Abstract Viewer with all presentations and posters is available with QR code.
- The latest Attendee Registration List is available at the registration desk or can be accessed with QR code.
- Follow @USWBSI on X or LinkedIn; for posts about the NFHB Forum, use the hashtag **#nfhbforum26.**
- In case of emergency, please notify USWBSI's Director of Operations Michelle Bjerkness (612.990.5032).
- The 2026 National FHB Forum is being held at the Hyatt Regency Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky.

RESEARCH AREA ACRONYMS

The following are used throughout the program to reference areas of focus for presentations and posters.

FST - Food Safety & Toxicology
GDER - Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance
MGMT - FHB Management
PBG - Pathogen Biology and Genetics
VDHR - Variety Development and Host Resistance

Quick Mobile Access QR Codes

USWBSI Code of Conduct

2026 Virtual Poster Room

2026 Abstract Viewer

2026 Attendee Registration List

2026 SPONSORS

THANK YOU

The organization of the NFHB Forum is coordinated by the USWBSI with funds provided by USDA-ARS through the National Facilitation Office.

Additional support for the NFHB Forum is made possible through generous contributions from:

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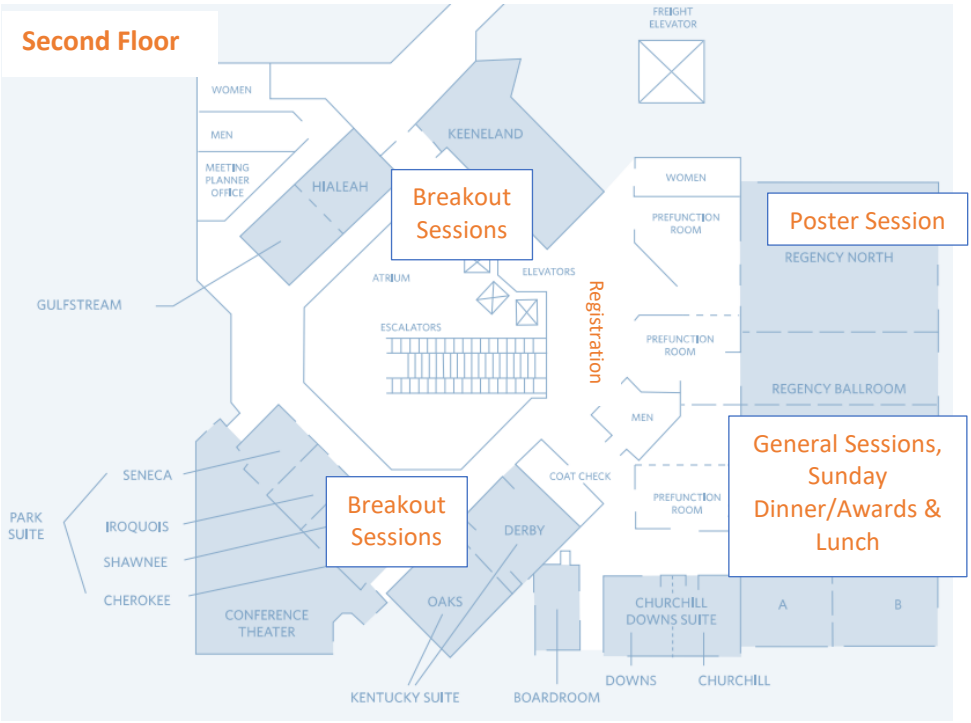
Networking & Facilitation Office (NFO) | nfo@scabusa.org | scabusa.org

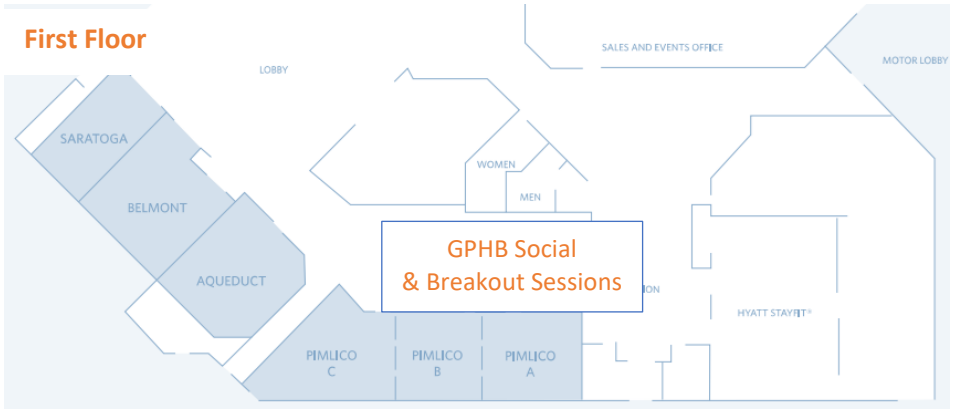
The USWBSI is a national multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional research consortium whose goal is to develop effective control measures that minimize the threat of Fusarium head blight (scab), including the production of mycotoxins, for producers, processors and consumers of wheat and barley. The USWBSI's recent $8.1 million annual budget comes from Federal funds appropriated through the USDA-ARS and is distributed to research projects in more than 30 states.

2026 SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

	Monday December 7, 2026	Tuesday December 8, 2026	Wednesday December 9, 2026
7:00AM		**Breakthrough Breakfast** The Spire (Hotel Top Floor)	**Breakfast** The Spire (Hotel Top Floor)
8:30AM		**Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Meetings** (See details on pg 7)	
9:00AM	**Registration Opens** Level 2 (Top of Escalators)		**General Session 5** Regency Ballroom South
10:00AM	Poster Author Set-up Regency Ballroom North Level 2	Break	Break
		Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Meetings (See details on pg 7)	**Crowdsourced Closing Session** Regency Ballroom South
		Attendee Lunch Regency Ballroom Foyer	**Closing Remarks** NFHB Forum Adjourns @ Noon
1:00PM	**Opening Session** Regency Ballroom South Level 2	**USDA Genotyping Lab Breakout Meetings** (See details on pg 8)	
		Break	
1:45PM	**General Session 1** Regency Ballroom South	**General Session 3** Regency Ballroom South	**USWBSI Steering Committee Meeting** Gulfstream-Hialeah & Keeneland Level 2
		Poster Competition Finalists	
	Break	Break	
3:40PM	**General Session 2** Regency Ballroom South	**General Session 4** Regency Ballroom South	
	Poster Competition Finalists	Flash & Dash	**National Wheat Improvement Committee Meeting** (4-8PM only, not meeting on Thursday AM) Kentucky Suite Level 2
5:30PM	**Poster Session/Reception** *Even # Poster Authors Present* Regency Ballroom North	**Poster Session/Reception** *Odd # Poster Authors Present and Poster Competition Awardees* Regency Ballroom North	
6:30PM	**Dinner & Awards Ceremony** Regency Ballroom South		
8:15PM	**Early Career Social** Pimlico Level 1	Open	
9:15 PM			

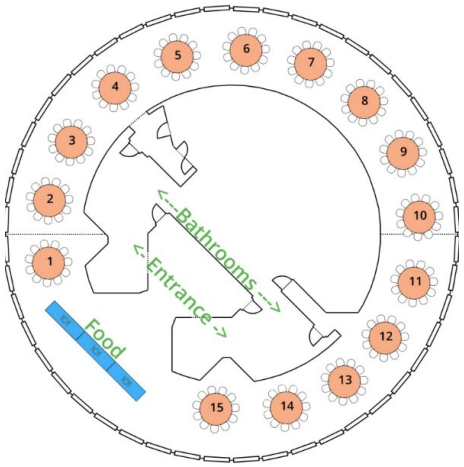
FLOORPLAN
Hyatt Regency Louisville





Top Floor - Spire

Take elevators to the top floor to reach the Spire



Breakfast location for Tuesday & Wednesday

MONDAY, DEC 7

9:00AM-5:30PM
Registration Open
Level 2 | Top of the Escalators

10:00AM-12:30PM
Poster Author Set-up
Regency Ballroom North

Abstract Viewing
Abstracts for all of the presentations and posters are available on the NFHB Forum Abstract Viewing page at https://scabusa.org/forum/abstracts/abstracts.php?fy=2026

For quick mobile access to all the abstracts try this Online Abstract QR code

1:00PM
Opening Session
Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Lisa Vaillancourt & Eric Olson, FOC Co-Chairs

1:00PM | Welcome & Overview



Andrew Friskop
USWBSI Researcher Co-Chair,
North Dakota State University

1:05PM | Keynote Presentation



Phil Needham
Needham Ag Technologies
8 Steps for Better *Fusarium* Suppression in Wheat

1:40PM | Industry Perspective



Brian Semple
Siemer Milling Company
The Milling Perspective - Searching for Consistency in a Dynamic Environment

2:00PM
General Session 1 | Introduction to USDA's National Wheat & Barley Roadmaps
Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Lisa Vaillancourt & Eric Olson, FOC Co-Chairs

2:05PM | USDA-ARS



Oswald Crasta
USDA-ARS
USDA's Strategic Roadmaps: Shaping the Future of Wheat & Barley Research

2:12PM | Wheat



Mary Guttieri
USDA-ARS
The USDA-ARS National Wheat Commodity Roadmap and Fusarium Head Blight Research

2:24PM | Barley



Mali Mahalingam
USDA-ARS
Strategic Roadmap for USDA-ARS Barley Research: Driving Innovation, Climate Resilience, and Economic Value

2:36PM | Panel
Facilitated Panel Discussion on USDA Roadmap Next Steps

2:50PM
Networking Break
Regency Ballroom Foyer

FHB CROWDSOURCED
New this year, throughout the National FHB Forum, submit your unanswered questions, burning topics, and expert input you want addressed. Feedback will be synthesized and everyone will have a chance to upvote the top three topics/experts for the Crowdsourced Closing Session!

Access the form to submit your ideas with this QR code:

3:20PM

General Session 2

Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Mike Giroux & Junli Zhang, FOC VDHR Representatives

3:25PM | VDHR



Xiwen Cai
USDA-ARS
Introgression and Deployment of *Thinopyrum elongatum*-derived FHB Resistance Gene *Fhb7*^{The2} in Wheat and Barley

FHB Management FAQs (Panel Discussion)

4:00PM | MGMT



Juliet Marshall
University of Idaho
FHB Perspectives from Irrigated Production in Idaho

4:08PM | MGMT



Carl Bradley
University of Kentucky
"It Depends": Tackling the Tough Questions about Fusarium Head Blight in the Southern Ohio Valley

4:15PM | Panel

Facilitated FAQ Panel Discussion
Alyssa Collins, facilitator

4:30PM

Poster Competition Session – Graduate Student Finalists

Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Mike Giroux & Junli Zhang, FOC VDHR Representatives

Graduate Student Poster Competition finalists present for final judging round.

5:15PM

Poster Session & Reception

Regency Ballroom North

5:30-6:15PM

Even Numbered Posters

Authors Present to Answer Questions

(See pages 12-16 for Poster Author details.)

Special Thanks to our Sponsors for the Reception

American Malting Barley Association | Anheuser-Busch | Molson Coors beverage company

6:30-8:00PM

National FHB Forum Dinner

Regency Ballroom South

Special Thanks to our Dinner Sponsor

BAYER | PROSARO PRO

6:30-7:15PM

Dinner Service and Networking

7:15-8:00PM

USWBSI Excellence Awards Ceremony

Back for its second year, the USWBSI recognition program honors individuals and teams making outstanding contributions to reducing the impact of Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) on wheat and barley. These awards celebrate not only scientific innovation but also the spirit of collaboration and advocacy that drives the FHB research community forward. All awardees will be presented with their awards, and the Lifetime Achievement Awardee will provide a presentation.

8:15-9:45PM

Early Career Social (coordinated by GPFHB)

Pimlico (First Floor) | Organizers: Lawrence Tidakbi and Simran Goyal

The Graduate Students and Post-Docs in FHB (GPFHB) invite all post-docs and graduate students to learn more about the GPFHB efforts and get to know your fellow peers with interactive bingo game and time to socialize.

TUESDAY, DEC 8

7:00-9:00AM

Breakfast

Top Floor - Spire

Breakthrough Breakfast – Join your colleagues for breakfast (included in registration) and dive into open discussions on topics suggested by attendees or grab any table and start your own discussion.

8:00AM-5:30PM

Registration Open

Level 2 | Top of the Escalators

8:00AM-5:00PM

Poster Room Open for Viewing

Regency Ballroom North

Research Area Acronyms

FST - Food Safety & Toxicology
GDER - Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance
MGMT - FHB Management
PBG - Pathogen Biology and Genetics
VDHR - Variety Development and Host Resistance

8:30AM-1:30PM

USWBSI Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

All attendees are welcome to attend; meeting rooms are on both Level 1 and Level 2.

	Level 2						Level 1
TUESDAY	**Conference Theatre**	**Keeneland**	**GulfStream-Hialeah**	**Kentucky Suite**	**Park Suite**	**Churchill Downs**	**Pimlico**
7:30AM		7:30-8:30AM **HTP Breakout** Facilitator: Rich Horsley *Discussion on implementation of USWBSI's high throughput phenotyping projects.*					
8:30AM	8:30-10:00AM **USWBSI T3 Breeders DB Workshop** Facilitator: Jean-Luc Jannink		8:30-10:00AM **FHB MGMT Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Alyssa Betts	8:30-10:00AM **GDER Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Harold Trick	8:30-10:00AM **PBG Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Guixia Hao	8:30-10:00AM **DUR-CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Elias Elias	8:30-10:00AM **FST Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Mark Busman
10:00AM	**Break |** Service Location: Regency Ballroom Foyer						
10:15AM	10:15-11:45AM **Nuts & Bolts Session** **FHB/Scab Nursery: Let's Compare Notes!** Facilitator: A.L. Miranda, J. Scherer and B. Hansen *An open conversation on irrigated and dryland FHB nurseries—from planting to disease evaluation.**	10:15-11:45AM **IM-CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Pierce Paul	10:15-11:45AM **BAR-CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Mitch Elmore	10:15-11:45AM **HWW-CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Sue Mondal	10:15-11:45AM **VDHR-SPR CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Jason Fiedler	10:15-11:45AM **VDHR-SWW CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Rick Boyles	10:15-11:45AM **VDHR-NWW CP Breakout & Stakeholder Engagement Session** Chair: Jessica Rutkoski

* *Bring your questions, experiences, and ideas! We will also have some hands-on demonstrations.* This session is targeted for graduate students, postdocs, and technicians, but anyone interested is welcome to attend.

	Level 2						Level 1
TUESDAY	Conference Theatre	Keeneland	GulfStream-Hialeah	Kentucky Suite	Park Suite	Churchill Downs	Pimlico
11:45AM	**Buffet Lunch for All Attendees** Service Location: Regency Ballroom Foyer (Seating in Regency Ballroom and around 2nd Floor Atrium)						
	12:30-1:30PM **USDA Eastern Regional Small Grains Genotyping Lab Breakout** Chair: G. Brown-Guedira		12:30-1:30PM **USDA Western-Pullman Regional Small Grains Genotyping Lab Breakout** Chair: Deven See		12:30-1:30PM **USDA North Central Small Grains Genotyping Lab Breakout** Chair: Jason Fiedler	12:30-1:30PM **USDA Central Small Grains Genotyping Lab Breakout** Chair: Katherine Jordan	
1:30PM	Return to General Session, starts at 1:45PM						

1:45PM

General Session 3

Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Mickey Drott & Nicholas Rhoades, FOC PBG Representatives

1:50PM | PBG



Tom Baldwin
North Dakota State University
Sharpening the Axe: A Team Approach to Cutting Down Fusarium Head Blight Losses

2:10PM | PBG



Guixia Hao
USDA-ARS
Explore Fungal-Plant Interactions to Control Fusarium Head Blight

2:45 PM

Presentation Competition Session – Post-Doc Finalists

Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Mickey Drott & Nicholas Rhoades, FOC PBG Representatives

Post-Doc Poster Competition finalists present for final judging round (awardees announced at 5:05PM).

3:30PM

Networking Break

Regency Ballroom Foyer

3:45PM

General Session 4

Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Mark Busman & Zhao Jin, FOC FST Representatives

3:50PM | FST



Zhao Jin
North Dakota State University
From Testing to Solutions: *Fusarium*-Associated Mycotoxin Analytical Service, Research, and Future Directions

4:25PM | VDHR



Nicholas Santantonio
Virginia Tech
Breeding for Scab and Everything Else: Integrating FHB Traits into a Multi-objective Genomic Selection Pipeline

4:45PM

Flash & Dash Session

Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Mark Busman & Zhao Jin, FOC FST Representative

Brief poster presentation highlights by a selection of Graduate Students and Post-Docs.

5:05PM

Announcement of the Graduate Student and Post-Doc Competition Awardees

Regency Ballroom South | Moderator: Richard Magnusson, USWBSI Grower Co-Chair

The 2026 National FHB Forum Graduate Student and Post-Doc Awards will be presented.

5:15PM

Poster Session & Reception

Regency Ballroom North

5:30-6:15PM

Odd Numbered Posters & Poster Competition Awardees

Authors Present to Answer Questions

(See pages 12-16 for Poster Author details.)

6:15-6:45PM

Reception continues

Special Thanks to our Reception Food Sponsors

MINNESOTA WHEAT RESEARCH & PROMOTION COUNCIL

SOUTH DAKOTA Wheat COMMISSION

and our Sponsors for the Reception Donations

AMERICAN MALTING BARLEY ASSOCIATION

Anheuser-Busch

MOLSON COORS beverage company

7:00PM

Evening on your own to enjoy Louisville!

Restaurant suggestions available at registration.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 9

7:00-9:00AM
Breakfast
Top Floor - Spire

8:00AM-12:00PM
Registration Open
Level 2 | Top of Escalators

8:00AM-10:00AM
Poster Room Open for Viewing
Regency Ballroom North

9:00AM
General Session 5
Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Alyssa Collins, Kathryn Turner & Christina Cowger, FOC MGMT Representatives

FHB Fungicides - Where Do Drones Fit In? (Panel Discussion)

9:05AM | MGMT



Boris Camiletti
University of Illinois
Effect of Carrier Volume on the Performance of Drone-Applied Fungicide for Managing FHB in Wheat

9:14AM | MGMT



Terry Spurlock
University of Arkansas
Optimizing Fungicide Applications on Wheat Using Drone Sprayers

9:23AM | MGMT



T.J. Binns
Syngenta
Utilizing Drones for Field Trials with Wheat Fungicides

9:30AM | Panel
Facilitated Panel Discussion
Christina Cowger, facilitator

Moderators: Vijay Tiwari & Rong Di, FOC GDER Representatives

9:50 AM | GDER



Nidhi Rawat
University of Maryland
Chimeric Pore-forming Lectin Enables Transferable, Broad-Spectrum Antifungal Protection Across Crops

10:10AM | VDHR



Andrew Green
North Dakota State University
Good is Good Enough - Prioritizing FHB Resistance in Uncertain Times

10:30AM
Introduction of Crowdsourced Closing Session – Up Voting
Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Lisa Vaillancourt & Eric Olson, FOC Co-Chairs

10:35AM
Networking Break / Poster Authors Remove Posters
Regency Ballroom Foyer

11:00AM
Crowdsourced Closing Session
Regency Ballroom South | Moderators: Lisa Vaillancourt & Eric Olson, FOC Co-Chairs

11:05AM | Topics to be Determined



Speakers Selected Onsite Prior to Session
Break away from a traditional session and take the driver's seat in our NEW Crowdsourced Closing Session. Throughout the NFHB Forum, your submitted questions, deeper dive topics, and nominated experts have been captured and synthesized in real time. Based on the live audience vote right before the last break, the top three selected questions will take center stage. Join our crowdsourced panel of experts for an agile, interactive, and fast-paced dialogue that tackles the immediate, practical FHB breakthroughs you upvoted to hear—ensuring we close out addressing the FHB community's immediate and relevant priorities.

11:50AM
Closing Remarks
Regency Ballroom South

11:50AM | USWBSI Closing Remarks



Richard Magnusson, USWBSI
Grower Co-Chair, Magnusson Farms

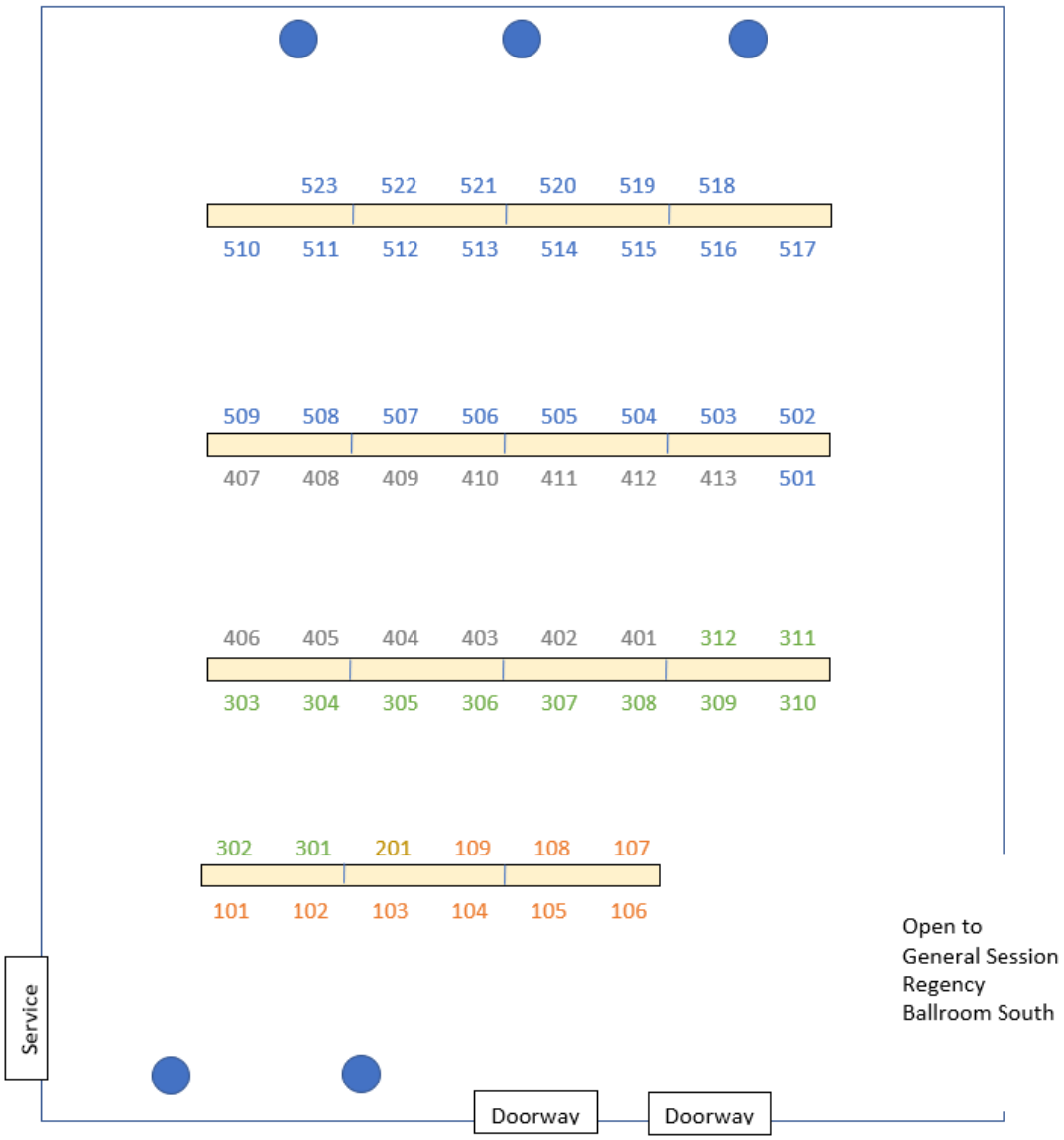
12:00PM
Meeting Adjourns

12:15-4:00PM
USWBSI Steering Committee Luncheon & Meeting (invitation only)
GulfStream-Hialeah & Keeneland, Level 2

4:00-8:00PM
National Wheat Improvement Committee (NWIC) Meeting
Kentucky Suite, Level 2
(does not continue on Thursday AM, meeting on Wednesday only)

POSTER AUTHOR SESSIONS

Regency Ballroom North | Monday & Tuesday



Poster Authors Present to Answer Questions

Monday, December 7 Poster Session
5:30-6:15PM | **EVEN** Numbered Poster Authors

Tuesday, December 8 Poster Session
5:30-6:15PM | **ODD** Numbered Poster Authors & Poster Competition Awardees

Onsite Viewing
The Poster Session Room is open Monday-Wednesday during the Forum in Regency Ballroom North.

Virtual Viewing
The Virtual Poster Room is available in tandem with the live Poster Sessions.

Special Thanks to the 2026 Poster Competition Sponsor:

NORTH AMERICAN MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

For quick mobile access to all the virtual posters try this QR code

2026 POSTER PRESENTERS

Poster #	Category	Presenter Name	Institution	Title
101	FHB Management (MGMT)	Chonza, Joseph	The Ohio State University	Associations Among Wheat Grain Deoxynivalenol Contamination, Predicted Risk of Fusarium Head Blight, and Post-Anthesis Weather
102		de Moraes Chitolina, Gabriel	University of Kentucky	Can Host Resistance Offset Fungicide Costs for Fusarium Head Blight Management in Wheat?
103		Gautam, Sujan	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Aggressiveness and Deoxynivalenol Production of *Fusarium graminearum* Isolates on Two Wheat Cultivars Differing in Resistance to Fusarium Head Blight
104		Hamilton, Ryan	Michigan State University	Fungicide Program Effects on Grain Yield, Deoxynivalenol, and Malting Quality in Barley in Michigan and North Dakota
105		Kikway, Isaack	The Ohio State University	Fusarium Head Blight Management Coordinated Project: Integrated Management Trials 2026
106		Kikway, Isaack	The Ohio State University	Fusarium Head Blight Management Coordinated Project: Uniform Fungicide Trials 2026
107		Lagos, Esmeralda	The Ohio State University	Evaluation of Risk-Based Fungicide Programs for Fusarium Head Blight Management in Soft Red Winter Wheat
108		Shires, Madalyn	South Dakota State University	Integrating Genetic Resistance and Fungicide Control in FHB Management: Choose the Cultivar First, Optimize Fungicide Protection Second
109		Telenko, Darcy E. P.	Purdue University	Strengthening Collaboration in Fusarium Head Blight Research: International Symposium Highlights and Opportunities for Collaboration
201	Food Safety & Toxicology (FST)	Sun, Chaofan	North Dakota State University	Exploring DON Detoxification During Barley and Wheat Germination: From D3G to Putative Diglucosides
301	Gene Discovery & Engineering Resistance (GDER)	Bethke, Gerit	University of Minnesota	Heterologous Expression of the Barley UDP-Glucosyltransferase *Hvugt13248* in Wheat Detoxifies Multiple Trichothecenes and Increases Fusarium Head Blight Type II Resistance
302		Bethke, Gerit	University of Minnesota	The Role of Two Barley UDP-Glucosyltransferases in Resistance to *Fusarium graminearum*
303		Brauer, Elizabeth	University of California, Riverside	Host-induced Virulence Factor Gene Expression and Gramillin Resistance in Barley
304		Di, Rong	Rutgers University	Wheat and Barley Carry the Chloroplast Stress-Response Genes Targeted by Deoxynivalenol, and Wheat *Tahsp26* Differs Among Its Three Genomes
305		Goyal, Simran	University of Maryland	Mutations in *DMR6* Orthologs are Associated with Reduced Fusarium Head Blight Susceptibility in Durum Wheat
306		Henson, Jonathan	USDA-ARS	Characterization of Plant Carboxylesterases That Convert 3-ADON To DON

Poster #	Category	Presenter Name	Institution	Title
307	Gene Discovery & Engineering Resistance (GDER)	Rauf, Yahya	Texas A&M AgriLife Research	Tracking Native and Exotic Resistance to Fusarium Head Blight and Kernel Traits in Texas Wheat Breeding Pipeline
308		Riasat, Amna	North Dakota State University	Functional Characterization of Three Candidate Genes Associated with Aggressiveness and Mycotoxin Production in *Fusarium graminearum*
309		Roth, Tiana	2Blades	NLRseek™ : A High-throughput Tool for Finding Genes that Confer Resistance to Fusarium Head Blight
310		Shrestha, Navin	University of Nebraska - Lincoln	Genetic Dissection of Hexaploid Wheat-Derived Fusarium Head Blight Resistance in the Tetraploid Backgrounds
311		Thapa, Sittal	North Dakota State University	Transcriptomic Study to Reveal Genes Governing Fusarium Head Blight Resistance in Durum Genotypes with Introgressed Major Resistance Genes
312		Yang, Shengming	USDA-ARS	Improving Agrobacterium-Mediated Transformation Efficiency and Expanding Genotype Amenability in Barley
401	Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)	Carey, Grace	Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education	Fungal Endophyte Microbiome Accurately Predicts FHB Disease State Across Commercial Malting Barley Fields
402		Chowdhury, Sumit	Kansas State University	Investigating Genomic Signatures of Host Association in Wheat and Maize Associated *Fusarium graminearum* Isolates Within a Shared Population Background
403		Gopisetty, Sandhya	Kansas State University	Genome-Wide Association Mapping and Candidate Gene Analysis of Trichothecene Production Levels in *Fusarium graminearum* NA2 Isolates
404		Gupt, Shiwarttan Kumar	University of Georgia	Comparative Genomics Reveals Distinct Host-Interaction and Secondary-Metabolism Repertoires in *Fusarium graminearum* and *Fusarium poae*
405		Hay, William	USDA-ARS	Effect of Photoperiod on Growth and Production of Trichothecene Mycotoxins in *Fusarium graminearum*
406		Kim, Hye-Seon	USDA-ARS	A Generative Machine Learning Approach to Control Fusarium Head Blight: Development of Novel Binders That Alter Enzyme Function and Integration of Population Genomics Data on *Fusarium graminearum*
407		Mormor, Mercy	University of North Texas	Characterizing the Impact of Fungal Factors on *NPR1* and *NPR3* Stability and Function During *Fusarium graminearum* Infection in Wheat
408		Rhodes, Nicholas	USDA-ARS/ NCAUR-ORISE	Exploring Trichoderma-Based Biocontrol Strategies to Control FHB and Mycotoxin Contamination
409		Rhodes, Nicholas	USDA-ARS/ NCAUR-ORISE	*Fusarium graminearum* Effectors Fgrgae1 and Fgrgae2 Are Critical for Wheat and Barley Infection Through Divergent Mechanisms

Poster #	Category	Presenter Name	Institution	Title
410	Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)	Shi, Gongjun	North Dakota State University	Emergence of Highly Aggressive *Fusarium graminearum* Isolates in State of North Dakota
411		Slawin, Connor	University of Minnesota	Unraveling Mycotoxin Production in *Fusarium graminearum*: Tri5 and Tri4 Protein Networks Suggest Close Association of Trichothecene and Other Secondary Metabolite Pathways
412		Vaughan, Martha	USDA-ARS	Differential Accumulation of Trichothecenes and Their Glucosides in Wheat and Barley: Effects of CO_2, Grain Composition, and *Fusarium* Population Diversity
413		Whitaker, Briana	USDA-ARS	Differential Impacts of *Fusarium graminearum* and Its Virulence Factor Deoxynivalenol on the Wheat Microbiome
501	Variety Development and Host Resistance (VDHR)	Ajayi-Moses, Oluwatayo	North Dakota State University	Sumai 3 Haplotype Blocks Inherited by Resistant Hard Red Spring Wheat Carry Fusarium Head Blight–Responsive Genes
502		Bhattarai, Kushal	Virginia Tech	QTL Analysis of Fusarium Head Blight Resistance in a Biparental Soft Red Winter Wheat Population
503		Bley Cottica, Rafael	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Genomic Selection to Improve Fusarium Head Blight Resistance in Nebraska Barley
504		Brault, Charlotte	University of Minnesota	Strategic Integration of Multiple Wheat Breeding Programs and Regional Nurseries for Genomic Prediction of Fusarium Head Blight Resistance
505		Charif, Ahmed	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Development of Winter Durum Wheat Introgression Lines Carrying *Fhb7*^{The2} for Enhanced Fusarium Head Blight Resistance
506		Engel, Megan	Montana State University	Enhancement of Montana Durum Wheat Production through Integration of *Fhb1, Fhb5*, and *Fhb7*^{The2} Resistance Genes
507		Gillum, Maggie	University of Kentucky	Accuracy of Within-Family Genomic Selection for FHB Traits
508		Hermanson, Amber	North Dakota State University	Accelerated FHB Marker-Assisted Selection and Speed Breeding on Hard Red Spring Wheat in North Dakota
509		Infante, Rubylyn	North Dakota State University	Genomic Relationships Among Fusarium Head Blight Resistance Sources and Sumai 3-Derived Spring Wheat
510		Karmacharya, Anil	University of California-Davis	Development and Characterization of Elite Spring Wheat Germplasm with Improved Resistance to Fusarium Head Blight
511		Lyerly, Jeanette	North Carolina State University	The 2026 Uniform Southern Soft Red Winter Wheat Scab Nursery
512		Pothula, Harika	North Dakota State University	Improving Fusarium Head Blight Resistance in Durum Wheat Through Recurrent Phenotypic and Genomic Selection
513		Rauf, Yahya	Texas A&M AgriLife Research	Collaborative Regional Efforts for Accelerating Fusarium Head Blight Resistance in Wheat Breeding Programs Through Doubled Haploids and Marker Assisted Selection
514		Read, Andrew	USDA-ARS	Results of the Hard Red Spring Wheat Uniform Regional Scab Nursery
515		Rutkoski, Jessica	University of Illinois	An Online Wheat Variety Testing Data Browser to Help Growers Select Scab-Resistant Varieties in Illinois

Poster #	Category	Presenter Name	Institution	Title
516	Variety Development and Host Resistance (VDHR)	Salsman, Evan	North Dakota State University	Effects of *Fhb1* and *Fhb5* on Fusarium Head Blight Disease Severity, DON, and Days to Flowering in Advanced NDSU Durum Wheat Germplasm
517		Sellani, Julio	LSU Ag Center	Evaluating Family-Based Genomic Prediction Strategies for Fusarium Head Blight Traits in SSRWW
518		Stockinger, Eric	The Ohio State University	Deoxynivalenol Accumulation in Multiple Backcross Populations Using a Common Parent Exhibiting Very Low DON Accumulation Indicates That Inheritance of DON Accumulation Levels is Inversely Correlated With Heading Date and Height
519		Tehseen, Muhammad Massub	North Dakota State University	Three Decades of Genomic Change in FHB Resistance: Haplotype Frequency Trajectories in Northern Plains Wheat (1992-2024)
520		Thapa, Subash	South Dakota State University	WheatAI: Democratizing FHB Phenotyping with Smartphone RGB Images
521		Tidakbi, Lawrence	Kansas State University	Forward Genomic Prediction of Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) Resistance in Winter Wheat Populations
522		Willman, Matthew	North Carolina State University	Survey of Fusarium Head Blight Resistance-Associated Haplotypes in Soft Red Winter Wheat
523		Zhou, Jinglie	USDA-ARS	Automated Spikelet-Level Phenotyping of Fusarium Head Blight Severity in Wheat Using Vision Transformer Models

2026 NFHB FORUM NOTES



U.S. Wheat & Barley Scab Initiative (USWBSI)

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