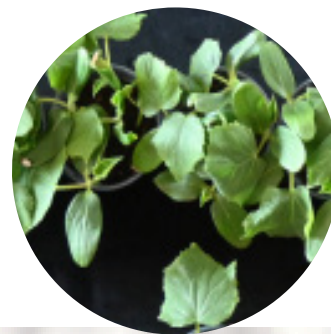




PSC & Syngenta Symposium 2025



Picture: by Pascale Fuxy, University of Basel

PROGRAM

Opening session

Chair: Prof. Cyril Zipfel, PSC

10:00

Welcome

Dr. Manuela Dahinden, PSC

10:10 - 10:30

Chinese crop innovation:

Production, Protection and R&D

Prof. Dr. Lianhong Zhang, Syngenta Group

China R&D

10:30 - 10:50

From chromatin to crops:

Epigenetic control of plant traits

Prof. Sara Simonini, University of Zurich

10:50 - 11:10

Questions and answers

Fellow presentations

Chairs: Prof. Sara Simonini and
Dr. Astrid Oberson Dräyer, PSC

11:10 - 11:30

Biocontrol composts: Tackling soil-borne crop diseases in a changing climate

Eva Burgunder, University of Basel,
PhD student

11:30 - 11:50

Epigenetic drugs as key to understand and modulate flowering time in grasses

George Mackay on behalf of Eugenio Reale,
University of Zurich, PhD student

11:50 - 12:10

Toward the engineering of plant pattern recognition receptors for durable disease resistance

Songyuan Zhang, University of Zurich,
PhD student

12:10 - 12:30

Questions and answers

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch break and tour through research facilities

Closing session

Chair: Willy Rueegg, Syngenta, Head
Research Biology Capability Development

14:00 - 14:20

Sustainable intensification of tropical pastures: Optimize nitrogen supply through integration of legumes and grasses with biological nitrification inhibition?

Dr. Astrid Oberson Dräyer, ETH Zurich

14:20 - 14:40

From farm to pharmacy: How agricultural fungicides are connected to antifungal resistance in medicine

Dr. Helge Sierotzki, Syngenta Crop
Protection, Stein

14:40 - 15:00

Questions & answers

15:00

Final remarks

Willy Rueegg

WEDNESDAY, September 3rd, 2025

[PLANTSCIENCES.CH](https://plantsciences.ch)

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

