

# The European Plant Breeding Academy

## Enroll Now for 2010-11

The Academy class will begin in March of 2010. Don't miss this special opportunity to become a highly skilled plant breeder. For more information and to ensure placement in the next session, contact us or go to our website at [pba.ucdavis.edu](http://pba.ucdavis.edu).

*"The PBA is the perfect program for those already doing conventional breeding; but lack the academic background and training. This is why I sent Ruby over without hesitation. After two years she is working independently and progressing very well with our breeding work. The best part of the program is that the participants apply what they learn directly to their breeding careers."*

*-Anthony Tse, Owner, Clover Seed Co. Ltd., Hong Kong*



*"This course is invaluable to me in that I am able to maintain my full time, great job and gain this knowledge without becoming a full time student."*

*-Peter Martini, Nunhems*

*"A very...rigorous foundational course in plant breeding. All aspects of the discipline are given deep coverage, with professors providing additional personal insight. A small class size ensures every student is given tutor-like attention when needed. The Plant Breeding Academy has, without a doubt, given me powerful tools to tackle virtually any problem I might encounter in my career as a professional plant breeder."*

*-Adam Dick, Tomato Solutions*



For more information please contact:

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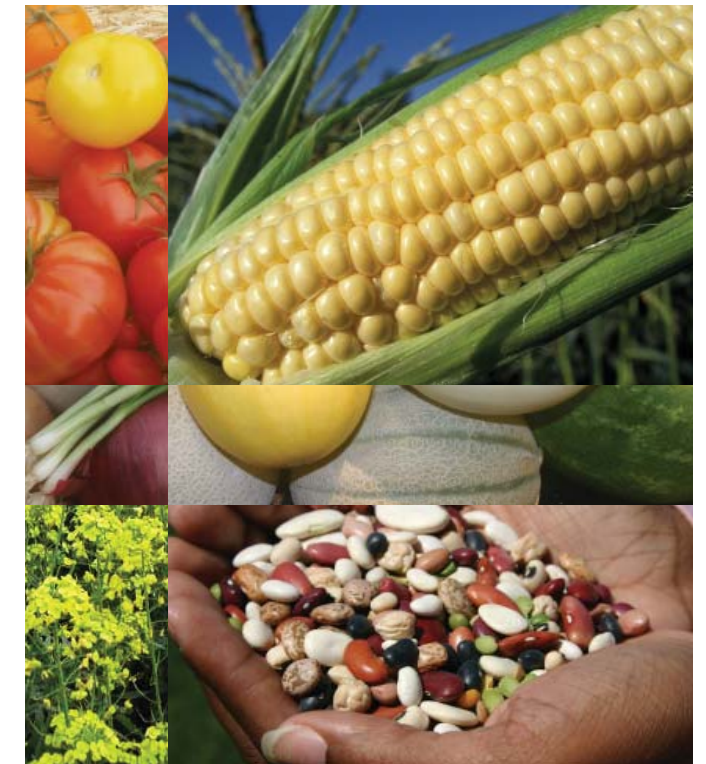
[pba.ucdavis.edu](http://pba.ucdavis.edu)



## Now in Europe



Advanced training for the  
Professional Plant Breeder



Developed and managed by  
the Seed Biotechnology Center

*Starts March 2010*

# The European Plant Breeding Academy

The Academy is a professional development course designed by the Seed Biotechnology Center at UC Davis to increase the supply of professional plant breeders. Reduced numbers of plant breeders are being trained in academic programs, leading to a shortage throughout the industry. The SBC and seed industry leaders addressed this issue by creating the Academy.

## For Professionals

The course is targeted toward personnel currently involved in breeding programs who desire additional training in genetics, statistics, and breeding theory. At the end of the two-year course, participants will have the skills and knowledge to lead and manage an independent plant breeding program.



## The Program

Participants meet in five different countries for three 1-week sessions per year over two years (six sessions), allowing students to continue their employment while being involved in the course. The Academy curriculum is a combination of lecture, discussions, practical experience and lab/computer sessions with homework and exercises conducted via the internet between sessions. A one-day tour of plant breeding and seed production facilities will be incorporated into each session. A case study analysis of a breeding program in a specific crop is a required assignment prior to the final session.

## Schedule and Locations

March 8-13, 2010 – Davis, California

June 21-26, 2010 – Angers, France

Oct. 18-23, 2010 – Enkhuizen, Netherlands

Feb. 21-26, 2011 – Barcelona, Spain

June 20-25, 2011 – Gatersleben, Germany

Sept. 26-Oct.1, 2011 – Davis, California

## Instructors, Guest Lecturers

The core instructors are highly respected academics and plant breeding practitioners. They are experienced teachers, have released commercial varieties, and conduct groundbreaking research. Guest lecturers include prominent geneticists and breeders who work in a wide range of species.

Idy van Leeuwen (BreedWise)

Plant Breeding Academy Director (UC Davis)

Kent Bradford (UC Davis)

Allen Van Deynze (UC Davis)

David Stelly (Texas A&M)

Roger Chetelat (UC Davis)

Gurdev Khush (UC Davis)

-- *Partial list*



## Academy Partners

European Seed Association

Vegepolys in France

Seed Valley and Naktuinbouw in The Netherlands

Center for Research in Agricultural Genomics in Spain

Spanish Plant Breeders Association

Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research in Germany

German Plant Breeders Association

## Topics

Establishing breeding goals

Statistics and experimental design

Basic and quantitative genetics

Selection theory

Populations development and recombination

Breeding systems and selection methods

Multiple trait and indirect selection

Breeding for resistance to abiotic and biotic stress

Genotype-by-environment interactions

Integration of genomics in breeding

Finishing varieties and seed production

Data management and intellectual property

## Course Certificate Program

The Academy provides training in plant breeding nearly equivalent to that obtained in a Master of Science program. It provides greater depth in the specific subject matter of plant breeding but possibly less breadth than some MS programs require. Participants who complete the course will receive an official Certificate of Completion from UC Davis Extension and 19 units of academic credit.

## Prerequisites and Application

Knowledge and/or experience equivalent to a Bachelor of Science degree in biology or related field and some experience in plant breeding is expected. A working knowledge of basic genetics and statistics, such as completion of introductory courses in these subjects, is also expected. A brief review of these topics is included in the course.

To provide a personalized learning environment, the program is limited to 20 participants for each two-year session. Applications may be submitted online at [pba.ucdavis.edu](http://pba.ucdavis.edu).

## Tuition

The cost for the 2-year course is €19,500, which may be paid in two annual installments. Tuition includes all course materials, fees, lunches, and field trips during the in-residence weeks. Travel, accommodations, and meals outside of class are not included.

