

# UK Rice Research Consortium Meeting: Rice and Climate Change 2021

## Hybrid Event Case Study

Supported By:



## Overview

The 4th Annual UK Rice Research Consortium (UKRRC) meeting was held on the 10th and 11th of November 2021.

It was a hybrid meeting held at the Aberdeen Science Centre. The target attendees were academic group leaders and advanced researchers working on rice (UKRRC also holds an annual early career researchers event). It was entitled “Rice and Climate Change” and was timed to run concurrently with COP26. There were 26 live delegates and 30 joined online. The meeting was opened by a short address from Professor Karl Leydecker, Senior Vice-Principal of the University of Aberdeen. The event was split into two science sessions.

The first sessions was “Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Resource Use Efficiency and Climate Impacts in Rice” and was started by Professor Tapan Adhya of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, India addressing the meeting online. His talk “Sustainability of rice production system: in clash with the changing environment” gave a brilliant background to the importance of rice and the context of climate change both in terms of mitigation and adaptation. There were nine live presentations from the UKRRC community.

The second session was “Genetics and Genes for Adaptation to Climate Change” and was started by an online presentation from Dr Amelia Henry of the International Rice Research Institute who presented “The trait development pipeline for rice breeding”. This highlighted the climate change relevant traits, the genetic sources of genes and the breeding pipelines being used to exploit them. That was followed by one online and three further live presentations from the UKRRC community. In addition to scientific presentations there were three discussion sessions on “Planning UKRRC’s future”, “Funding Opportunities” and “Collaboration: Mapping and Joint Planning”.

### Key Information | Hybrid Event

Dates	10 - 11 November 2021
Conference Venue	Aberdeen Science Centre, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
Conference Dinner	Station Hotel, Aberdeen, UK
Delegates	Over 50 delegates

Funding was received from the Rank Prize Fund, the University of Aberdeen and the Genetics Society.

Of particular interest to the Genetics Society were presentations about genetic mapping heat stress in a MAGIC population (University College London), mapping in a Vietnamese rice diversity panel (Earlham Institute), and photosynthesis traits in *Oryza glaberrima* (Nottingham), plus talks on specific genes AXR4 (Nottingham), SUMO (Durham) and nematode resistance genes (Aberdeen).

Live delegates were offered a £50 travel bursary if they used an alternative to flying for attendance and six people claimed that fund.

“ Overall, the meeting was a great success, allowing some quality face to face dialogues (for some the first time since COVID-19 started) and interaction with online participants, even in the discussion sessions.

Professor Adam Price, Event Chair and Personal Chair, Biological Sciences at the University of Aberdeen

# 4th

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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*Hybrid Event*

**56**  
**DELEGATES**

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**26**  
**LIVE**  
**DELEGATES**

**30**  
**ONLINE**  
**DELEGATES**

**£50**

**TRAVEL**  
**BURSARY**

*If they used an  
alternative to flying for  
attendance*

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**CONFERENCE**  
**DINNER**

**AT**

**THE STATION HOTEL**

