



Global Hop Summit

Hop Symposium and Parliamentary Evening
on November 18, 2019 in Brussels

Bavarian Mission, Rue Wiertz 77, 1000 Bruxelles
Marstall Hall

Organizer:

German Hop Growers Association e.V.
German Hop Industry Association e.V.



in collaboration with

Bavarian Brewers Association
German Brewers Association
Brewers of Europe
International Hop Growers Convention (IHGC)





FURTHER PARTNERS

- MEP Ulrike Müller and MEP Norbert Lins

- Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)

- Bavarian Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry (BayStMELF)

- Society for Hop Research e.V. – Hüll / Wolnzach

- Hop Research and Hop Breeding Center of
the Bavarian State Agency for Agriculture (LFL) – Hüll / Wolnzach

- USA Hops / Hop Growers of America (HGC)

- Bryant & Christie Inc. – Seattle

- International brewing associations

- COPA-COGECA



BACKGROUND

Hop is not only one of the oldest medicinal plants, rather an indispensable raw material for beer production. He is often referred to as the "soul of beer".

The international hop growing industry on around 60,000 hectares, with focus on Europe and the US, is currently facing enormous challenges as a small special culture.

Especially, climate change and higher requirements for the protection of environmental resources are forcing discussion on the reorientation of hop growing for the future.

Focal points are the introduction of new methods for efficient, irrigation and needs-based fertilization. Another key issue is the necessary reorientation of pest and disease control as well as a significant intensification of breeding and research to achieve these objectives.

However, this concerted action can not be achieved in the relatively short time required by law and politics.

On the contrary, there is an urgent need for sufficiently long transitional periods, which are particularly necessary for breeding and research in the hops sector, in order to establish new, alternative cultivation methods in practice in addition to new climate-adapted varieties.

Otherwise, it can be assumed that there will be enormous losses in terms of quality and yield in European and international hop growing over the next 5 years, which will endanger the coexistence between the hops and brewing industry.



HOP-SYMPOSIUM

8.30 am Registration

9.30 Uhr 1. Welcome and introduction to the hop and brewing sector:
Presentation of the global and economic significance of the hop and brewing industry as an innovative, economically growing and above all sustainable economic sector (including complete quality control from the hop garden to beer, etc.)

(30 min.)

Presentation hops sector

Presentation brewing sector

10.00 am 2. Climate protection and adaptation – challenges and solutions in climate change

a) Introduction to climate change (BMEL) **(20 min.)**

b) What is already done in the hops sector to combat climate change?
Lecture on current and planned research work (LfL) **(20 min.)**

Coffee break (20 min.)

c) Breeding targets and climate change
Lecture by a neutral body (LfL) desirable **(20 min.)**

d) International contribution: How are the US hop growers and the entire US hop industry facing the challenges of climate change? **(20 min.)**

Remaining time until lunch break for questions / discussion

12.15 am to 1.15 pm lunch break



HOP-SYMPIOSIUM

1.15 pm

3. Reorientation of pest and disease control

- a) Guidelines Integrated Plant Protection and Sustainability in Hops
Brief presentation of the Integrated Plant Protection Guidelines in German hop production and presentation of the sustainability principle in the hop and brewing industry (LfL) **(20 min.)**

- b) Plant protection from the perspective of registration in Germany and Europe.
What happens to the hop growers in Europe within the next 5 to 10 years and which role does climate change play?
 - aa) Lecture on the current and future registration situation in Germany and Europe (BLV) **(20 min.)**

 - bb) Presentation by a high-ranking representative of the European Commission on the current situation and future development in the European plant protection for hop growing as a special culture **(20 min.)**

 - cc) Lecture on the current situation and possible developments within MRL harmonization (Bryant Christie) **(20 min.)**

 - dd) Lecture: Options for the future of plant protection practices? (including plant strengtheners, biocides, alternative cultivation methods, new varieties etc. / LfL) **(30 min.)**



HOP-SYMPOSIUM

4. Objectives: How can politics support the hop and brewing industry?

A short speech by a representative of the brewing industry, the hop trade and hop growers

(30 min.)

The following goals and measures for the reorientation of hop growing of the future have to be considered:

- Sufficient transitional periods required for breeding and research in the hop sector to establish new, alternative farming methods in addition to new, climate-adapted varieties. The basic for this are the high standards developed over decades, especially in integrated pest management
- Developing methods for adequate irrigation and needs-based fertilization
- Securing existing and establishing new, sufficient water abstraction rights
- Reorientation of pest and disease control
- Intensification of breeding climate adapted, pest resistant and high yielding varieties to secure the raw material base for the international brewing industry
- Intensive research into new cultivation techniques and alternative plant protection methods (digitization, ecological systems, resource conservation)

3.15 pm to 3.45 pm Coffee break

3.45 pm to 5.00 pm “Conclusions” and final words

The Conclusions should summarize the results and suggestions from the previous contributions including discussion:

5.00 pm End of the symposium

Break and room preparation until 7.00 pm



PARLIAMENTARY EVENING

7.00 pm **Admission and registration**

7.45 pm **Welcome** by the organizers (VDH and DHWV)

Beer dinner with appetizer

Beer dinner and entertaining beer tasting by a certified beer sommelier with European beer diversity.

8.00 pm to **Moderated panel discussion** with speakers of
9.00 pm the Hop Symposium, representatives of the
EU Commission and members of the EU Parliament

From 9.00 pm **Beer dinner with main course and dessert**

Cozy conclusion of the event with musical entertainment
by the Obermüller musicians

Hops and malt – God bless it !

