BRIAN CLARK BIOTECH LECTURE

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NUCLEUS (1871-120)

Hosted by Gregers Rom Andersen



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Food production is here to stay - and plant production needs to increase!

Whether climate change, CO_2 emissions, biodiversity decreasing, increasing population or any combination thereof, it all ends up in a need for food and plants produced with less input, and on less land.

This is essentially what plant breeding is about; generate, test and identify plants with superior combinations of genetics that allows for higher yields and better qualities – produced with the same or less inputs. In other words reducing the environmental footprint per bread, beer, sandwich etc.

At Sejet Plantbreeding we breed and develop new varieties in some of the major crops grown in Europe. We have our own breeding programmes in Wheat, Barley, Triticale, Faba beans and Field Peas. We are owned by the Danish farmers through DLG.

Our breeding utilizes as well traditional methods of crossing and selection, in various setups and locations throughout Europe, as well as applying more biotechnological based methods such as Double Haploid production, DNA markers, genomic selection and more precise measuring of enduse qualities related to ex. malting and brewing. To stay ahead as breeders we participate in and conduct a number of research projects, in collaboration with both universities and other breeders. For example developing a platform for Crispr technology in wheat and barley – so we are ready once the technology becomes available for agriculture – adapting Faba beans to Danish growing conditions.

