

## **Welcome to the 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium Breeding Research on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (BREEDMAP 6)**

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This meeting continues a series of international symposia for Breeding Research on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, which started in 1996. Open to all aspects of basic and applied research in plant breeding, the conferences place emphasis clearly on medicinal and aromatic plants.

This BREEDMAP 6 Symposium is organized by the Julius Kuehn Institute, Federal Centre for Cultivated Plants (JKI) in collaboration with the Leibniz Institute for Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK) and the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research (GA).

Customers all over the world are interested in products based on natural sources. There is a permanent demand for high-quality products. Prerequisite are new varieties and lines of medicinal and aromatic plants with better resistance to biotic and abiotic stress, with adaptation to different conditions in cultivation, and finally with an increase of active principles. In many cases we do have a breakthrough but for a broad range of medicinal plants much can still be done in order to improve quality and quantity and to get constant high levels of active principles. The BREEDMAP 6 Symposium presents the international platform to share new results and techniques with an international audience to create new ideas and fruitful collaborations in this promising field.

### **The symposium focuses on the following main topics:**

- A.** Next generation methods and chances for medicinal and aromatic plants
- B.** Cell, tissue and organ culture, cryopreservation, endophytes
- C.** Resistance breeding and new phytopathogens
- D.** Improvement of organisms for bioreactors and photobioreactors
- E.** *Ex situ* and *in situ* genetic resources – protection and use by collecting practice – cultivation of new species
- F.** Plant breeding and plant analytics
- G.** CBD, Nagoya Protocol, EU regulations

**Workshop:** Pyrrolizidine alkaloids – a problem?

I look forward to an attractive program of sessions, lectures and workshops, and I hope that Quedlinburg 2016 will provide a place for stimulating discussions between scientists from different regions of the world. The scientific program is rounded off with excursions that provide an insight into MAP research institutes and modern production as well as the beautiful atmosphere and scenery of the historical towns and the surrounding landscape.

Dr. Frank Marthe

for the Scientific Committee of BREEDMAP 6