

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) is a major source of calories in the human diet and it is one of the most important grain crops of the world. Since cultivation of wheat began in ancient times in the Fertile Crescent, modern day hexaploid common wheat and tetraploid durum wheat have been selected and introduced into environments ranging from the tropics to the edge of the Arctic Circle. Advances in wheat improvement have gradually changed grain composition in modern wheats to satisfy consumer demands. Progress in understanding molecular mechanisms underlying the biosynthesis of major grain constituents and their deposition during grain development, coupled with advances in grain processing technologies and novel wheat grain uses have been developed in recent years. The multitude of new ways to utilize wheat have evoked significant discussions between wheat producers, researchers, grain-processors, traders, and have also raised social and ethical issues regarding world food supply, food safety and security.

The Fourth International Wheat Quality Conference will follow the great tradition of open scientific exchange and discussion set by the three earlier conferences held at Manhattan, Kansas, USA. The theme of the IWQC-IV 'Wheat Science Dynamics: Challenges and Opportunities' reflects rapid scientific advances that are being made in understanding wheat grain development, technological advancements in ways to study wheat grain and engineering innovations to utilize grain for food, feed and industrial applications. The scientific sessions will include, but are not limited to:

- Marketing and international trade
- Food safety and security
- Advances in wheat processing and utilization
- Wheat health and wellness
- Wheat improvement strategies including biotechnology and genomics

For more information please contact the co-chairs or website: http://www.usask.ca/iwqc4

Ravindra Chibbar Department of Plant Sciences University of Saskatchewan ravi.chibbar@usask.ca Co-chair James Dexter Grain Research Laboratory Canadian Grain Commission jim.dexter@grainscanada.gc.ca Co-chair





