A TWO WEEK COURSE
16th March to 27th March 2020

Statistics, computation and data handling, trial design and analysis, population genetics, quantitative genetics, linkage analysis, association mapping, genomic selection, marker assisted selection.

Tutors: Prof Ian Mackay & Dr Keith Gardner

Quantitative Methods in Plant Breeding

This annual two-week postgraduate level course, originally devised at NIAB by Ian Mackay, and successfully run for the first time in 2008, introduces participants to methods in quantitative genetics and statistics. Course content ranges from the well-established, for example variety trial design and analysis, to more contemporary methods such as genomic selection. Emphasis is on practical application of methods to breeding programmes with theory covered in sufficient depth to allow confident evaluation and application of methods to plant breeding programmes. The course provides an opportunity for participants to become familiar with the concepts and utilization of contemporary methods and software at all stages in the breeding process.

Who should attend?

Plant breeders and plant geneticists who have some background knowledge of statistics and quantitative genetics, but who wish to understand and be able to apply these methods more thoroughly. Post-graduate students working in crop genetics, for example on the detection and analysis of genes controlling the inheritance of complex traits.

The course is limited to 24 participants.
Course details
The course is limited to 24 participants on a first come basis. Please book as early as possible as we are usually oversubscribed. The closing date for applications and payment is 31st January 2020.

Duration
Week 1: Monday 16th March - Friday 20th March 2020.
Week 2: Monday 23rd March - Friday 27th March 2020.
The course will run from 9.30-18.00 each day with the exception of Mondays (start at 10.30) and Friday 27th March (finish at 14.00).

Course cost (no VAT applicable)
Postgraduate student £1,019; non student £1,529

What’s included
Course materials, refreshments, lunches, local excursions, a pub meal, the course dinner and transport to and from the hotels at Orchard Park.

How to apply
You can apply online at www.niab.com/QMPB or download the form and email it to Mary McPhee mary.mcphee@niab.com

Payment methods
By debit/credit card when you book online. Please contact us if you want to pay by card over the telephone. Please do not send bank or debit/credit card details by email.

By bank transfer: Quote QMPB20 & your name

Contact details
Please address any queries to Mary McPhee mary.mcphee@niab.com or +44 (0) 1223 342 495

What you need to know
All delegates should bring a (preferably 64-bit) laptop for use on the course.

A week prior to the course you will be sent a link so that you can download the required course software.

If you provide us with your mobile number we will join you to the QMPB20 WhatsApp group so you can communicate with other delegates prior to and during the course.

Accommodation
Delegates should book their own accommodation. Two hotels with reasonable rates in Orchard Park near to NIAB are:

Premier Inn A14, £56-£107/night for B&B. www.premierinn.com

Travelodge Orchard Park, £32-£95/night for B&B. www.travelodge.co.uk.

A bus route from both these hotels to the city centre is close by. For other accommodation options visit www.visitcambridge.org

On course days
We will organise transport to and from these hotels to NIAB. For those delegates travelling by car parking will be available at NIAB’s Park Farm facility.

Useful information

Closest airport is London Stansted

Closest train station to above hotels is Cambridge North.

Taxis: Panther +44 (0)1223 715 715; Camcab +44 (0)1223 704 704.

NIAB, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0LE

www.niab.com