



Grapedia II

— The Grapevine Genomics Encyclopedia —

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING



9 to 11 March 2027 |



Stellenbosch, South Africa

Grapedia II

From Omics Data to Vineyard Impact

Sponsorship Prospectus | 9-11 March 2027 | STIAS, Stellenbosch, South Africa

Grapedia II is an international symposium and workshop focused on transforming massive grapevine datasets into usable knowledge for cultivar improvement, vineyard performance, sustainability and climate adaptation. The meeting will bring together researchers, students and industry stakeholders to define how community resources such as Grapedia can make data more structured, interoperable, interpretable and impactful.

Why this matters now?

Grapevine research is entering a data-rich era, with new reference genomes, pangenomes, population datasets, phenotyping data, and functional datasets becoming available. The challenge now is to make these resources usable and open across the community and relevant to cultivar and vineyard improvement.

The topics discussed in this meeting will also be directed towards the creation of the biggest and most complete grapevine database known to date: GRAPEDIA. This DB is a community-driven, FAIR-compliant knowledgebase and integrative platform designed to facilitate the exploration, interpretation, and reuse of grapevine omics data. It brings together diverse datasets, including genomics, transcriptomics, epigenomics, metabolomics, phenomics, gene regulatory networks, and curated functional annotations, into a unified and interoperable framework. Grapedia provides a valuable bridge between large-scale biological data and practical applications in viticulture and grape production. By integrating genomic, transcriptomic, metabolomic, and phenotypic information into an accessible knowledge platform, Grapedia facilitates the identification of genes, pathways, biomarkers, and molecular mechanisms associated with traits of agronomic and commercial relevance, such as fruit quality, aroma, stress tolerance, disease resistance, yield, and adaptation to climate change. This knowledge can support breeding programs, biotechnology innovation, precision viticulture, and the development of new products and management strategies. Furthermore, by promoting data standardization, interoperability, and community-driven curation, Grapedia reduces the barriers to accessing and interpreting complex omics datasets, enabling faster translation of research outcomes into tangible solutions for growers, nurseries, breeders, wineries, and other actors across the grapevine value chain.

Why sponsor Grapedia II?

- Support a focused international meeting at the interface of grapevine science, data integration, tools, functional biology and viticulture
- Build scientific capacity in South Africa by giving local students and researchers direct access to international leaders, emerging technologies, and global discussions in data-driven grapevine improvement
- Strengthen links between data-rich grapevine research and practical outcomes for cultivar and vineyard improvement
- Associate your organisation with a community roadmap paper on data-driven cultivar and viticultural improvement in grapevine
- Support the development of open access data-driven approaches relevant to both wine and table grape improvement, including cultivar innovation, disease resistance, climate resilience, and vineyard performance
- Gain visibility among a highly targeted audience of grapevine researchers, bioinformaticians, functional geneticists and industry stakeholders

Audience and programme highlights

Expected audience	Programme highlights
Approximately 60-80 participants, including keynote and invited speakers, international researchers, postgraduate students, early-career scientists, and industry stakeholders.	Three themed days, keynote lectures, oral presentations, tool demonstrations, flash talks, structured discussions, a welcome cocktail, and a closing dinner.

Symposium themes

Day 1 - Data as a Community Resource

Building the data foundations for next-generation grapevine improvement

Day 2 - From Data to Biological Insight

Turning data into actionable knowledge for trait and cultivar development

Day 3 - From Knowledge to Cultivar and Vineyard Impact

Applying omic knowledge to improve cultivars and vineyard performance

International keynote speakers

Six international keynote speakers have already confirmed their participation, covering a range of topics including:

- Grapedia platform, community resources and interactive tool demonstrations
- Pangenomics, transcriptomics, and single-cell approaches
- Harnessing AI for multi-omics interpretation
- Turning data into biological meaning
- Grapevine diversity and population genomics
- Vineyard performance, rootstocks, adaptation and resilience

Sponsorship packages

Sponsorship opportunities are limited to preserve the focused and non-commercial character of the meeting.

Platinum Sponsor – 7 500 Euro

Recognition and benefits: Prominent logo on website, programme, slides, signage and delegate communications; acknowledgement in opening and closing remarks; allowance for a short welcome statement (3-5 min); exhibition/display table; 2 complimentary industry registrations; acknowledgement in the roadmap manuscript.

Named sponsorship options may include: final conference dinner, cocktail event, student awards, lunches, keynote lecture, discussion session and/or one full symposium day.

Gold Sponsor – 5 000 Euro

Recognition and benefits: Logo on website, programme and sponsor slides; exhibition/display table; 1 complimentary industry registration; acknowledgement during a selected session; acknowledgement in the roadmap manuscript.

Named sponsorship options may include: cocktail event, student awards, lunches, keynote lecture and/or discussion session

Silver Sponsor - 2 500 Euro

Recognition and benefits: Logo on website and programme; shared sponsor slide; verbal acknowledgement during closing remarks.

Named sponsorship options may include: discussion session, flash session and/or tea/coffee

Use of sponsorship funds

- International keynote travel and accommodation
- Student and early-career researcher participation support
- Venue hire, audio visual services
- Lunch and coffee breaks during symposium
- Welcome reception and closing dinner costs
- Preparation of the community roadmap manuscript and related meeting outputs

Community driven output

A major planned outcome is a community-authored perspective manuscript provisionally titled: ***A roadmap for data-driven cultivar and viticultural improvement in grapevine***

The manuscript will synthesize outcomes from presentations and structured discussion sessions. Recordings and transcripts will be used to support synthesis and drafting, with authorship determined according to contribution and journal guidelines. Sponsors will be acknowledged in this publication.

Contact

Dr Justin Lashbrooke

Stellenbosch University

Email: jglash@sun.ac.za

Website: <https://grapedia.org/grapedia-second-meeting/>

