



Association Européenne des Technologies de l'Embryon
Association of Embryo Technology in Europe

41ST SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Cork, Ireland

Clayton Hotel Cork City

3rd – 5th September 2025

Wednesday, September 3rd 2025

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP – EQUINE

07.00: Registration desk open and welcome coffee

07.50: Introductory remarks, welcome (*Cesare Galli, Thomas Züchner*)

08.00: Introductory keynote lecture on: "in vivo, vs OPU/ICSI vs OPU/IVF where do we came from, where are we going to in the equine industry" (*Edward Squires*)

09.00: Exploring ethical opinions surrounding equine OPU (*Niamh Lewis*)

09.30: Embryo production in the lab (*Giovanna Lazzari*)

10.10: Coffee break

10.30: Cryopreservation and pre-implantation genetic testing of equine embryos (*Katrien Smits*)

11.30: Management of the recipient mare (*Michaela Kölling*)

12.00: Factors affecting recovery and pregnancy rates in equine embryo transfer program (*Denis Necchi*)

12.45: Regulations on equine germplasm shipments (*James Crabtree*)

13.15: Lunch

14.00: Start of 4 parallel wet labs with changing groups every 60 minutes

WS1 post mortem oocyte recovery (*Avantea*)

WS2 Vitrifying and warming of equine embryos (*Katrien Smits, Denis Necchi*)

WS3 sperm selection (*Matheus Felix*)

WS4 slow freezing and thawing of embryos (*Avantea*)

15.10: Same as above with swapped groups

16.20: Same as above with swapped groups

17.30: Same as above with swapped groups

18.45: Closing remarks (*Cesare Galli, Thomas Züchner*)

PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP – BOVINE

9.30: Bus to Lisduff Pedigree Holstein Farm, 300 cow dairy unit run by O'Sullivan family outside of Cork City

10.00: Coffee Break

10.15: Overview of Dairy and Beef Cattle Breeding Industry in Ireland (*M. Kavanagh, CEO Munster Bovine*)

10.45: Questions and Answers

11.00: Breeding Strategies and ET in Ireland (*J. O. Sullivan, Farmer*)

11.30: Global overview of ART in the cattle breeding industry (*P. Ross*)

11.45: Questions and Answers

12.30: Bus to O'Connor's Farm, 150 cow dairy high type Pedigree Holstein unit run by the O'Connor brothers

13.00: Reception and explanation of breeding strategies by O'Connor brothers

13.15: Lunch

14.00: Demonstration of Color Doppler Ultrasound, evaluations of recipients and early pregnancy (*G. Pugliesi*)

15.00: Parallel sessions

Embryo Analysis Software (*MGenesis*)

Nutrition (*M. Sheehy, Cattle Nutritionist*)

Synchronization (*MSD*)

Automation, robotics and data capture in modern dairy farming (*Lely and MSD*)

Infectious causes of reproductive losses in Irish dairy farms and prevention strategies at farm level (*B. Toland, Regional Veterinary Laboratory*)

Identifying embryo competence to establish pregnancy (*P. Hansen*)

17.00: Bus back to hotel

Tuesday, September 2nd 2025

15.00-18.30: Registration (Hotel reception)

Wednesday, September 3rd 2025

07.30-18.15: Preconference (see program above)

15.00-18.30: Registration (Hotel reception)

20.00-24.00: Welcome Reception at the city hall of Cork

Thursday, September 4th 2025

08.00-18.00: Registration

08.15-08.30: Opening meeting: AETE President Hilde Aardema and Chair of the LOC James Quinn

SESSION 1:

08.30-09.15: First invited lecture: Osvaldo Pascottini, School of Veterinary Medicine, University College Dublin, Ireland.

Microbiome-based therapies for restoring uterine health in domestic species.

09.15-10.30: Short oral communications: *Student Competition*

Alexia Siegmund Sabater, *Endometrial organoids medium does not support epiblast development during ovine post-hatching development (Poster 1)*

Giuliana Ferronato, *Changes in bull epididymal extracellular vesicles miRNA cargo in response to natural heat stress (Poster 2)*

Maria Plevridi, *Embryo-induced comparison of the mitochondrial hydrogen peroxide production in bovine oocytes and zygotes (Poster 3)*

Aitana Salvo-Jiménez, *TEAD3 is not required for bovine blastocyst formation (Poster 4)*

Quinn A. Hoorn, *Sperm metabolomic profiles reflect bull fertility status (Poster 5)*

10.30-11.30: POSTER SESSION 1, EXHIBITION and coffee break

SESSION 2:

11.30-12.15: Second invited lectures: Roberto Sartori, Department of Animal Science, University of São Paulo (ESALQ/USP), Piracicaba, SP, Brazil.

Pregnancy loss in cattle with emphasis on embryo recipients.

12.15-13.00: Short oral communications (SO) & Flash talks (FT)

Giselle Gamarra-Lacaze, *Comparative OPU-IVP efficiency across Bos taurus breeds under commercial and genetic selection programs (SO, Poster 15)*

Eliza M Murphy, *Mortality of calves derived from in vitro produced embryos (FT, Poster 26)*

Carla Canedo-Ribeiro, *Aneuploidy incidence does not differ between in vitro produced (IVP) and in vivo derived (IVD) bovine embryos of excellent quality (SO, Poster 103)*

Francesca Mossa, *Ovarian gene expression in juvenile calves exposed to nutrient restriction as fetuses (FT, Poster 78)*

13.00-14.30: Lunch/Student Lunch

SESSION 3:

14.30-15.15: *Third invited lecture: Valentina Lodde*, Department of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, University of Milan, Italy.

In vitro oocyte growth.

15.15-16.00: Short oral communications (SO) & Flash talks (FT)

Waleed F.A. Marei, *The vulnerability of primordial follicles to diet-induced mitochondrial damage and its persistence until ovulation despite preconception care (SO, Poster 38)*

Carla Moros Nicolás, *ZP1 and ZP3 proteins are essential for zona pellucida formation and fertility in rabbits (FT, Poster 39)*

Mohammadreza Ebrahimi, *In vitro culture of cumulus-oocyte complexes from sheep early antral follicles: achievements, challenges, and future directions (SO, Poster 35)*

Silke Roofthoof, *Murine oocyte mitochondrial activity following Tirzepatide exposure (FT, Poster 88)*

16.00-17.00: POSTER SESSION 2, EXHIBITION and coffee break

17.00-18.45: *Parallel workshop I: Equine ARTs.*

chaired by **Thomas Züchner**

Katrien Smits, *Recent Advances in Equine IVF and ICSI: Implications for Embryo Quality and Reproductive Success*

Niamh Lewis, *Revisiting folliculogenesis in the context of OPU: can we manipulate the antral follicle count?*

Cesare Galli, *Oocyte collection by transvaginal follicular aspiration (OPU)*

Matheus Felix, *Clinical integration of Standard IVF in Equine Embryo Production: challenges and opportunities*

Edward Squires, *How does equine ARTs impact the industry and genetic diversity of different breeds.*

James Crabtree, *Clinical success of transfer of frozen-thawed IVP embryos: How does it compare?*

Ronan Cox, Equilume, *Benefits of blue light for the pregnant mare and foal maturity*

17.00-18.45: *Parallel workshop II: Bovine ARTs*

chaired by **James Quinn**

20.00-24.00: Gala Dinner at the Cork City Gaol

Friday, September 5th 2025

08.00-18.00: Registration

SESSION 4:

08.30-09.15: *Fourth invited lecture: Marie Saint-Dizier*, University of Tours, France.

What the in vitro-produced embryo misses: an insight into the maternal environment's role in sperm selection and embryo quality.

09.15-10.15: Short oral communications (SO) & Flash talks (FT)

Vitezslav Havlicek, *Effect of oviductal fluid protein supplementation from different origins on bovine embryo development and quality in vitro (SO, Poster 61)*

Judith Diaz-Muñoz, *Extracellular vesicles from oxidatively stressed granulosa cells improve embryo development and redox balance after vitrification of in vitro matured bovine oocytes (FT, Poster 65)*

Dimitrios Rizos, *Functional and structural profiling of region-specific bovine oviductal organoids (SO, Poster 69)*

Ludivine Marco, *Pre-binding to isthmic epithelial spheroids enhances bull sperm ability to fertilize oocytes and obtain blastocysts in vitro (FT, Poster 68)*

Sergio Navarro-Serna, *Organoid-derived secretions mimic oviductal fluid composition and support bovine sperm function (SO, Poster 106)*

10.15-11.15: POSTER SESSION 3, EXHIBITION and coffee break

11.15-12.00: General Assembly

12.00-12.15: Sponsor presentation

12.15-13.45: Lunch/Student Lunch, meeting of the "Elongated Embryos"

SESSION 5:

13.45-14.45: Short oral communications & Flash talks

Adrián Martín-San Juan, *Co-incubation of boar sperm with seminal extracellular vesicles from high-fertility boars increases sperm parameters rather than those from low-fertility boars (SO, poster 57)*

Flash Talk to be confirmed

Eva Díaz-Hernández, *Hydrogel-based preservation of ram semen at room temperature: a novel approach (SO, Poster 102)*

Marcos Luis-Calero, *Supplementation of INRA96 medium with penicillamine, hypotaurine, and epinephrine does not alter protein tyrosine phosphorylation of thawed stallion spermatozoa (FT, poster 55)*

Short Oral Presentation to be confirmed

14.45-15.45: *Fifth invited lecture: Urban Besenfelder*, Institute of Animal Breeding and Genetics, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Austria.

Insights into early embryonic development: a personal assessment based on 30 years of experience.

15.45-16.00: *Pioneer Award 2025* – Urban Besenfelder AETE Medalist Presentation,

introduced by Michael Hölker (Germany)

16.00-17.00: POSTER SESSION 4, EXHIBITION and coffee break

SESSION 6:

17.00-18.00:

Reina Jochems, *High recovery of partially in vivo matured oocytes by ovum pick-up in sows and promising blastocyst rates following in vitro fertilization (SO, Poster 25)*

Yasmine M. Hachani, *Prediction of cell stages and cleavage durations of IVP bovine embryos with a deep learning model (FT, Poster 75)*

Olga Sajecka, *Associations between vaginal microbiota and pregnancy outcome in mares (SO, Poster 13)*

Ludovica Donadini, *Donor age as a limiting factor in the conservation of endangered cattle breeds through assisted reproductive technologies (FT, Poster 16)*

Mònica Acacio Espinosa, *First successful application of maternal spindle transfer in equine oocytes to overcome embryo developmental arrest (SO, Poster 114)*

18.00-18.30: Closing session:

Results of competitions and elections and invitation to the AETE Conference 2026

20.00-02.00: Farewell party at The Old Town Whiskey Bar at Bodega

