

# Gatersleben Research Award

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The Gatersleben Research Prize is awarded by the **Association for the Promotion of Crop Plant Research Gatersleben e. V.** with the support of the **Salzlandsparkasse** and the **Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research Gatersleben (IPK)** to promote young scientists in the fields of plant genetics and crop plant research.

The prize is endowed with a monetary amount of 2,500 euros and is awarded every two years for an outstanding doctoral thesis that deals with the development of insights into one of the following fields of interest:

- Structure, function and/or evolution of genetic material,
- Conservation, exploration and exploitation of plant genetic resources,
- Contributions to breeding genetics at the front end to practical plant breeding.

Candidates who have submitted a doctoral thesis in the above-mentioned subject area may apply for the award. The defence of their doctoral thesis must date back less than two years.

Candidates shall submit their thesis with a short statement by the supervisor of the thesis electronically as pdf file to the managing office of the Association until 15 May 2026 (Email to: [info.foerdergemeinschaft-ipk@web.de](mailto:info.foerdergemeinschaft-ipk@web.de)). The award winner will be selected in a two-stage selection process.

The prize will be awarded at an event at the IPK with a presentation of the work and possible further research by the prize-winner.

Gatersleben, January 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V. Korzun", is positioned above the name of the Chairman of the Association.

**Dr. Viktor Korzun**  
**Chairman of the Association**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nicolaus von Wirén", is positioned above the name of the Managing Director of the IPK.

**Prof. Dr. Nicolaus von Wirén**  
**Managing Director of the IPK**

Winners of the Gatersleben Research Award in the past years were:

- 2024: Dr. Hanna Marie Schilbert on „Molecular and bioinformatic identification and analysis of genomic loci controlling seed protein quality in rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.)” and Dr. Mustafa Bulut on “Assessing the genetic architecture underlying systemic responses to variable environments in crops using multi-omics”
- 2022: Dr. Manfred Mayer on „Discovery of novel beneficial alleles in maize landraces for the improvement of quantitative traits”
- 2020: Dr. Alevtina Ruban on „Analysis of the B chromosomes undergoing root-specific elimination during the embryogenesis of *Aegilops speltoides*”,
- 2018: Dr. Janina Braatz on „Production of oilseed rape with increased seed shattering resistance“