



4TH WORKSHOP ON HOP VIROIDS - ONLINE

Invitation

We cordially invite you to the 4th Hop Viroid Workshop. The workshop will take place as online edition via ZOOM.

8th of April 2025 Start 8:30 to *tba*
Online via ZOOM

Background and Objective

Viroid infections pose an increasing threat to hop production, with **Citrus Bark Cracking Viroid (CBCVd)** spreading from Slovenia to Hallertau since 2019 and **Hop Stunt Viroid (HSVd)** recently detected in Germany. Unlike fungal pathogens, viroids can remain latent for months or even years, making early detection challenging. Hops naturally host four viroid species, with a fifth infecting them experimentally, raising concerns about their susceptibility and the role of **climate change, global trade, and farm management** in their spread.

Since 2021, this annual workshop has provided a platform for agile research groups to exchange findings and strategies to **keep viroids away from hops**. This **4th digital edition** builds on past discussions. We opted for an online format this year, as a **focused, hop-specific update** remains necessary despite the upcoming **Hop Research Meeting in Spalt, Germany (July 2025)**, and the **Viroid Symposium in Bari, Italy (September 2025)**.

We expect presentations on key research results from **Germany (UHOH, LfL), Slovenia (IHPS, UJ), and the Czech Republic (IHR)**. Looking ahead, the **5th edition is planned as an in-person event in April 2026 in the Czech Republic**.

Topics

Viroid spread & control in hops – Waterborne transmission via irrigation – **Viroid degradation** in water & plant material – **Farm management**: hygiene, sanitation, crop rotation – **Viroid-free plants** through tissue culture elimination – **Detection**: molecular diagnostics, early identification – HSVd spread in Germany – **Novel viroids**: CEVd as experimental hop pathogen – **Tissue culture** test systems for research & eradication – **Integrated strategies**: early detection, phytosanitary measures, sustainable management.

Audience

The workshop is aimed at a specialist audience or interested laypersons from the hop industry. We also welcome presentations from the practice, on new methods or related topics of plant health and management.

Registration & Presentation

To participate in the Hop Viroid Workshop, please **send a short email** with the subject "Hop Viroid Workshop," including your name and institute, to pro-bioeconomy@uni-hohenheim.de by March 31, 2025, to ensure you receive a certificate of participation. If you wish to give a **presentation, please submit the title, speaker's name, and preferred duration (5–30 min)** to the same email address.

Notes

The workshop will be held in English. Participation in the workshop is free of charge.

We look forward to an inspiring event and to exchanging ideas with you!

Best regards,


Dr. Michael Helmut Hagemann