



2nd International Brewers Symposium on Hop Aroma and Flavor in Beer

The [2nd International Brewers Symposium on Hop Aroma and Flavor in Beer](#) was held in Corvallis, Oregon, on July 25–28, 2017. Over 225 delegates attended, coming from 10 different countries.

The symposium structure consisted of 12 invited speakers with 4 different round table sessions interspersed. The technical talks began with a historical overview of hop flavor research and then quickly dove deep into specific topics. For instance, four separate talks examined thiols as a powerful class of odorants for hop aroma. Other talks included hop oil characterization and recombination to create beer flavor, hop cultivation and its impact on hops and beer quality, the genetics of breeding new hop varieties, difficulties of adapting research analytical methods for QC practices, and dry-hopping impact on beer flavor and bitterness. The roundtable session presented research projects conducted by the Hop Quality Group; surveyed advanced hop products; outlined breeding, growing, and purchasing hops locally (outside the Northwest); and compared commercial dry-hopping practices. Those participants who presented posters were given an opportunity to introduce themselves and their poster/research topic in a rapid-fire flash presentation format that was well-received by the audience.





Beyond the technical aspects of the meeting there was plenty of time for networking as well as having fun. One evening highlight was the hop poetry slam and open mic night where attendees delivered haikus, poetry, and streams of consciousness about hops and beer... with jazz guitar playing in the background. Christina Schoenberger killed it with an engaging poem about Strisselspalt... poor Strisselspalt. Another evening was spent dining outdoors at a beautiful winery south of Corvallis followed by a party in the OSU Research Pilot Brewery.



The last day began with a half-day seminar featuring technical research updates from scientists who have projects funded by the Hop Research Council, while the afternoon was spent touring the OSU and USDA hop breeding facilities in Corvallis and then Coleman Ag's Alluvial Farm, a commercial hop farm 40 minutes north of Corvallis. With engaging talks, an inviting and fun atmosphere, and the outstanding weather, this symposium was a success all around. Many participants are hoping to see another one sooner than 2027... 2022, maybe?

