

**SESSION 2:  
YIELD POTENTIAL – YIELD GAP / POTENTIEL – ÉCART DE  
RENDEMENT / ERTRAGSPOTENZIAL – ERTRAGSLÜCKE**

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**YIELD POTENTIAL OF SUGAR BEET –  
PERSPECTIVES AND POSSIBLE LIMITATIONS**

**ABSTRACT**

Starting with the yield increase of sugar beet in the past decades, the importance of breeding progress as the main driver is demonstrated. The changes in beet composition during the breeding process may lead to possible limitations for further yield increase. The yield potential of sugar beet has been derived from a series of field trials and greenhouse experiments, making the gap to sugar yield in practice obvious. Calculations of the biomass production with ongoing breeding progress point to a strong limitation due to water supply in most sugar beet cultivation areas.

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