**Programme**

**20th June:**
18:00 h  Reception at Town Hall of Maastricht for congress participants and accompanying persons

**21st June:**
08:30 h  Welcome and opening of the congress by F.G.J. Tijink (IIRB President)
08:40 h  Presentation of the Dutch sugar production chain by J.A. Smid (President of IRS)
09:00 h  Presidential address

**Session 1:**  **Beet quality** (session organiser: A.W.M. Huijbregts)
09:20 h  Impact of beet quality on sugar manufacture and technological criteria for further quality improvement
         J.M. DE BRUIJN
09:40 h  Drought-induced changes in technical quality of sugar beet with consideration of genotypic differences
         D. BLOCH & C. HOFFMANN
10:00 h  Coffee break
10:30 h  Environment and physiological factors influencing autumn sugar beet quality
         C. ECHEVARRIA
10:50 h  Application of rendement factors concept to predict sucrose loss in beet molasses from Mediterranean area
         K. FARES, A. BAOUCH, H. HARLING & M. BURBA
11:10 h  Factors affecting marc content of sugar beet
         C. HOFFMANN
11:30 h  Discussion
12:00 h  Lunch

**Session 2:**  **Interactive Advisory Systems and Communication techniques**
(session organiser: J. Maassen)
13:20 h  How to get the message to the grower; an overview on the used communication techniques
         J. MAASSEN
13:40 h  International collaboration on Internet – identification of diseases, pests and weeds
         M. TITS, B. KÄMMERLING, K. BÜRCKY & J. MAASSEN
14:00 h  Preferring the Internet for the diffusion of technical information
         H. ESCRIOU
14:20 h  Communications for the future – the challenges in the sugar beet industry  
I. PETTITT & M. MAY

14:40 h  Data management and documentation with the Nordzucker Internet portal for the beet grower  
C. KIONKA

15:00 h  Invited speaker Dr. C.P. Veerman¹ (Dutch Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality)

15:45 h  Discussion

16:00 h  Coffee Break

16:30 h  Poster session + demo of interactive advisory systems

18:00 h  End of day 1

19:00 h  Congress dinner

22nd June:

Session 3:  **Open session** (session organiser: R. Olsson)

08:30 h  Biological bases to improve soil pest control. Results in aubeonymus mariae franciscae  
J. AYALA

08:50 h  Development and application of a rapid protocol to evaluate the resistance of sugar beet varieties against *Cercospora beticola* and in vitro assessment of the pathogen resistance to fungicides  
M. BEAUVOIS, M. JJAKLI, O. HERMANN, J.-M. MOREAU & J.-P. BUSOGORO

09:10 h  Yield response of sugar beet varieties to foliar diseases under temperate climate conditions – consequences for recommendation  
E. LADEWIG & A. OSSENKOP

09:30 h  *Cercospora beticola*: a soil borne pathogen?  
J.H.M. SCHNEIDER & J. VEREIJSSEN

09:50 h  Discussion

10:00 h  Coffee break

Session 3 continued:  **Open session**

10:30 h  3D-Micro-Computer tomography – new possibilities for seed analyses  
A. WOLFF

10:50 h  New developments in beet harvest cleaning and transport operations  
J.D.A. WEVERS & T. NORDSTRÖM

11:10 h  Sugar Beet in Europe: An environmentally friendly crop for sustainable plant production systems  
M. CARIOLLE

¹ Conditional commitment
11:30 h Discussion

**Session 1 continued: Beet quality**

11:40 h Assessment of internal beet quality by NIRS (Near Infrared Spectroscopy) and FTIR (Fourier Transform Mid Infra Red)
A.W.M. HUIJBREGTS, C. HEIJNEN, B. MOULIN & B. NOÉ

12:00 h Top determination of sugar beets by image processing
O. JANSSENS, V. JAOUEN†, C. HEIJNEN & A.W.M. HUIJBREGTS

12:20 h Discussion

12:30 h Lunch

**Session 4: Soil borne pests and diseases (session organiser: M. Richard-Molard)**

14:00 h Ingredients for management of rhizoctonia root rot in sugar beet
Y. BAKKER, C.E. WESTERDIJK & J.H.M. SCHNEIDER

14:20 h Hatch-induction with Acetox and subsequent PCR for half quantitative determination of *Heterodera schachtii* in soil tests
F. FÜRSTENFELD

14:40 h Biological properties of the beet necrotic yellow vein virus RNA5-encoded p26 protein
D. GILMER

15:00 h Detection and prediction of *Aphanomyces cochlioides* in field
L. HOVI & M. NIHLGARD

15:20 h Discussion

15:30 h Coffee break

**Session 4 continued: Soil borne pests and diseases**

16:00 h The impact of maize in crop rotation on root and crown rot (*Rhizoctonia solani*) of sugar beet
S. KLUTH

16:20 h Strategies for controlling sclerotium root rot in fall sown sugar beet crops
J. NAVAS-CORTÈS & J. AYALA

16:40 h Discussion

16:50 h End of day 2

Free evening programme

**23rd June:** 09:00 h Field visits and excursions
Visits to (a) an experimental farm with sugar beet trials, (b) a farm with sugar beet and dairy, about 1 million litre of milk is on-the-farm processed into yoghurt, and (c) a contractor having the complete machinery fleet for arable crops

16:30 h End of congress