



National Association
of Animal Breeders

09 | 2026

30th NAAB 2026 Technical Conference



Presented By: The NAAB Technical Conference Organizing Committee

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of Animal Breeders

Welcome to the 30th NAAB Technical Conference

This year's conference marks more than a milestone event — it represents 60 years of continuous commitment to progress in artificial insemination. For six decades, every two years, experts, technicians, scientists, and industry partners have come together to share knowledge, challenge assumptions, and move our field forward. That consistency speaks volumes about who we are.

Artificial insemination in the United States has never stood still. From early breakthroughs in semen collection and preservation to genomic evaluation, data integration, and advanced reproductive technologies, innovation has continually reshaped our industry. What defines us, however, is not simply the adoption of new tools — it is the willingness of this community to embrace improvement, refine best practices, and hold itself to the highest standards.

Ours may be a relatively small industry, but it is one powered by extraordinary dedication. The people gathered here do not just work in artificial insemination — they live it. They care deeply about animal health, genetic progress, producer success, and the long-term sustainability of our field. That shared passion is the thread connecting past, present, and future.

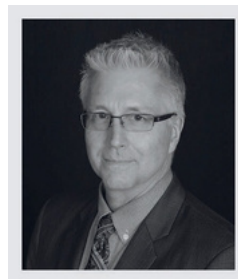
As we gather in Madison, we also look intentionally toward the future. We are proud to welcome students, early-career researchers, and new industry professionals who are joining us at this conference. They represent the next chapter of innovation — bringing fresh ideas, new technologies, and bold questions. Just as previous generations were mentored, challenged, and inspired at gatherings like this, we have the responsibility to invest in those who will carry this work forward for the next 60 years.

This conference is a testament to collaboration — a meeting of great minds and committed hearts, working together for the betterment of artificial insemination in the United States and around the world.

May this 30th Technical Conference honor our history, strengthen our partnerships, and inspire the next generation of innovation.



Dr. Marleen Broekhuijse
Chair of the NAAB
Technical Conference
Organizing Committee



Jay L. Weiker
President of NAAB/CSS

Conference Summary

Location and Travel

The 2026 NAAB Technical Conference on Artificial Insemination and Reproduction will be held near the Alliant Center, home of World Dairy Expo, at the newly refurbished Madison Marriott South at John Nolen Drive. The closest major airports, Madison (MSN), Milwaukee (MKE), and Chicago O'Hare (ORD), are approximately a 20-minute, 1.5-hour, or 2-hour drive from the host hotel, respectively.

Conference and Program Format

The Conference brings together active participants in the bovine genetics and artificial insemination industry with allied supporting businesses (our sponsors), professors and students, and retired members. This mix of current, future, and past contributors provides a great environment for learning, networking, and career development. Consequently, our program provides an opportunity for all these groups to contribute and interact. Meeting formats include presentations by invited speakers from industry and academia, Q&A discussion panels with topic experts, product-oriented focus sessions with sponsors, and student research presentations and posters. Last but certainly not least, coffee breaks, happy hour, and after-hours hospitality events organized by our sponsors catalyze interesting discussions both with people you have never met and those you already know well or thought you did! Our goal is to make open discussion, learning, and networking the order of the day.

Day-by-Day Event Summary

The Conference commences at 1:00 PM Wednesday afternoon and ends around 12:00 PM on Friday (two half days plus one full day Thursday).

Wednesday 1:00 PM – Welcome, discussion panel , invited talks, student flash talks
6:00 PM – Welcome reception

Thursday 8:00 AM – NAAB/CSS overview, student talks, discussion panels,
invited presentations, sponsor focus sessions, student poster
Q&A sessions
5:00 PM – Happy hour
6:00 PM – Sponsor hospitality

Friday 8:00 AM – NAAB/CSS presentation, invited talks
12:00 PM – Closing, and adjourn

Conference Program

Wednesday

09.16.2026 | 1:00PM - 6PM | CAPITOL SQUARE BALLROOM

01:00pm	Welcome Address & NAAB/CSS overview	<i>Jay Weiker – NAAB/CSS</i>
01:15pm	Bovine Avian Influenza – a Research Update	<i>Dr. Ky Pohler – Texas A&M</i>
01:45pm	Heat Stress – A Practical Perspective	<i>Dr. Leo Brito – Clemson University</i>
02:15pm	Biting & Parasitic Insects	<i>Dr. Cassandra Olds – Kansas State Univ.</i>
02:45pm	<i>BREAK</i>	
03:00pm	Focus Session 1	<i>Sponsor</i>
03:45pm	Discussion Panel: Biosecurity & Health Testing Moderator: Earl Souva, GLSS	<i>Tony Good, DVM – Select Sires / CSS Board Keith Poulsen, DVM – WVDL</i>
04:30pm	<i>BREAK</i>	
04:45pm	Training Young Bulls	<i>John Schenk – Schenk Anim Reprod Solutions</i>
05:15pm	Overnutrition of Young Beef Bulls	<i>Dr. Lucas Melo – University of Georgia</i>
05:45pm	Student flash talks	
06:00pm	Welcome Reception	



Conference Program

Thursday - Morning

09.17.2026 | 8AM - 12PM | CAPITOL SQUARE BALLROOM

08:00am	CSS Quarterly checklist - Needs for Quality Assurance	<i>Dr. Brad Belstra - NAAB/CSS Dr. Domingo Gomez - NAAB/CSS</i>
08:30am	CASA – An Independent Look at Variability of Systems	<i>Dr. Chris Kuster, DVM - Kuster Research and Consulting</i>
09:00am	Semen Morphology - Practical Application, Abnormalities & The Impact on Fertility	<i>Dr. Viv Perry - Univ. of Queensland</i>
09:30am	International 3 rd party Quality Control	<i>Dr. Sophie Eaglen - Select Sires</i>
10:00am	Student poster presenters & introduction of Doak Fellows	
10:45am	BREAK - Poster Presentations	
11:00am	Focus Session 2	<i>Sponsor</i>
11:45am	Discussion Panel: Domestic & International Quality Assurance Moderator: Dr. Brad Belstra, NAAB/CSS	<i>Chris Kuster, DVM, PhD Viv Perry, PhD Sophie Eaglen, PhD Leo Brito, DVM, PhD - Clemson Univ.</i>
12:30pm	LUNCH BREAK	



Conference Program

Thursday - Afternoon

09.17.2026 | 1:15PM - 6PM | CAPITOL SQUARE BALLROOM

01:15pm	Focus Session 3	<i>Sponsor</i>
02:00pm	Synchronization	<i>Dr. Megan Lauber - Univ. of Wisconsin</i>
02:30pm	IVF as a genetic tool - The Practical Application	<i>Dr. Aaron Prosocki - Sunshine Genetics</i>
03:00pm	BREAK	
03:15pm	Focus Session 4	
04:00pm	Discussion Panel: Dairy Management, Utilizing Different Kinds of Semen & Semen Handling Moderator: Dr. Kevin Rozeboom, ABS Global	<i>Megan Lauber, PhD Aaron Prosocki, DVM Joe Dalton, PhD - University of Idaho Eric Zwiefelhofer, PhD - STgenetics</i>
05:00pm	Happy Hour	<i>Sponsor</i>
06:00pm	Hospitality Rooms	<i>Sponsored Hospitality</i>



Conference Program

Friday - Morning

09.18.2026 | 8AM - 12:15PM | CAPITOL SQUARE BALLROOM

08:00am	Keynote: Future leaders in agriculture	<i>Dr. Billy Flowers - NC State University</i>
08:45am	Gene Editing in livestock	<i>Dr. Alison Van Eenennaam - UC Davis</i>
09:15am	Semen Antibiotics & Antimicrobial Alternative Strategies	<i>Dr. Jane Morrell - Swedish University of Ag Science</i>
09:45am	BREAK	
10:00am	Flash student presentations	
10:45am	Discussion Panel: Sustainability. Moderator: Dr. Vianney Salmon, PEAK Genetics	<i>Alison Van Eenennaam, PhD Jane Morrell, DVM, PhD Matt Cleveland, PhD - ABS Global Mark Johnson - Select Sires</i>
11:30am	Semen Collection on Alternative Species	<i>Dr. James Gillis - Colorado State Univ.</i>
12:00pm	Closing Remarks	<i>Dr. Marleen Broekhuijse - CRV</i>
12:15pm	ADJOURN	





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Meet the team

NAAB TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



Dr. Marleen Broekhuijse
Chair, CRV



Dr. Vianney Salmon
PEAK Genetics



Dr. Kevin Rozeboom
Genus / ABS Global



Earl Souva
Great Lakes Sire Service



Lucas Helser
Select Sires Inc



Axel Rehder
STgenetics



Dr. Lisa Herickhoff
MPTI



Dr. Karl Kerns
Iowa State
University

Scientific Advisor



National Association
of Animal Breeders

Meet the team

NAAB AND CSS STAFF



JAY WEIKER
PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAM
DIRECTOR



DONNA CRAIG
ACCOUNTING AND
OPERATIONS



JULI SCHLIMGEN
DATA COORDINATOR



DR. DOMINGO GOMEZ
CSS ASSOCIATE TECHNICAL
AND SERVICE DIRECTOR



DR. BRAD BELSTRA
CSS ASSOCIATE TECHNICAL
AND SERVICE DIRECTOR



www.naab-css.org



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