Instructions for submitting an abstract

You are invited to submit an abstract before December 15th. **Acknowledgment of receipt will be sent automatically. If you do not receive any acknowledgment, please contact us again.**

For talks, a maximum of two abstracts will be accepted for each speaker. All authors of accepted abstracts must register and be paid in full by the early registration deadline (currently February 2018). Authors failing to comply with this rule will not be included in the Conference Programme.

Oral (spoken) presentations will be limited to 20 minutes: 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions. Contributed oral presentations will be grouped by topic. If your abstract is accepted but cannot be accommodated as an oral presentation, we may offer you the opportunity to present a poster. All oral presentation rooms will be equipped with a computer and a data projector.
Poster presenters will receive general instructions on poster format once the abstract is accepted.
Detailed information and instructions on presentations at the meeting will be available to presenters several months before the meeting.

Proposals must contain the following information:

Talk or poster presentation?	**Talk**
Language of the presentation	**English**
Title of the presentation (limited to 150 characters including spaces)	**Effects of Bt maize on non-target arthropods – pitfalls on the pathway of a systematic review and potential ways out**
Author's name	**Michael Meissle**
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Abstract (limited to 150 words)	Genetically modified crops producing insecticidal proteins from *Bacillus thuringiensis* are a controversial topic in science and society. Potential unintended effects on non-target animals, in particular beneficial arthropods, have been studied for different Bt crops and regions. We are currently conducting a systematic review with the following question: "Does the growing of Bt maize change abundance or ecological function of non-target animals compared to the growing of non-GM maize?" (Meissle *et al.* 2014, Environmental Evidence 3:7). Meta-analysis allow the combination of multiple datasets to increase statistical power and generalizability. However, we encountered challenges when compiling datasets for statistical analysis, such as how to 1) combine studies reporting data on different taxonomic levels, 2) perform relevant quality assessment in absence of agreed standards, and 3) deal with heterogeneity in study methods and studied taxa and life stages. In this presentation, we will discuss potential solutions to those challenges.
Required support for French/English translation (for talks)	