



**Little animals – big impact:  
How nematodes & insects  
can improve smallholder yields**

Award ceremony and public discussion organized  
by the Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR),  
hosted by ETH Zürich (Room LEE E101, Leonhardstrasse 21)

15 December 2022, 16:15 – 18:40

**How can smallholders increase their yields while using less or no chemical inputs? Beneficial nematodes and insects can play an important role in this regard. At the SFIAR Award ceremony we will learn more and discuss about the potential of nematodes and insects to protect plants against pests or to improve soil fertility.**

At our event we will look at two research projects that clearly show this potential: Patrick Fallet presents a new biocontrol solution for farmers against the fall armyworm. Patrick has developed an innovative control method against a key pest affecting maize in many regions of the world. The fact that the biological control organisms can be produced locally by farmers with the appropriate training, makes the project particularly promising.

Adrian Fuhrmann has studied the influence of residues from black soldier fly larvae rearing on soil fertility. His research gives insights into how production in low-income countries can be increased by more efficient use of nutrient flows.

The two award-winning projects will be put into a wider context: From the perspective of an international company involved in biological pest management, Felix Dubach will look at the potential and challenges of introducing biocontrol measures for smallholders in developing countries. The concluding panel discussion provides an opportunity for further debate.

## Award

The Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR) celebrates outstanding work in the field of agricultural research for development with its annual Award. This year's PhD Award goes to Patrick Fallet from the University of Neuchâtel for his project "A novel nematode-based biocontrol solution for farmers against the fall armyworm". The Award for the Best Master's Thesis goes to Adrian Fuhrmann for his research "Influence of residues from black soldier fly larvae rearing on the plant-associated microbiome" submitted at ETH Zürich.

# Program

- 16:15** Welcome  
*Dr. Martijn Sonneveld, SFIAR President*
- 16:20** Keynote: Potential and challenges of biocontrol measures for smallholders in developing countries (working title)  
*Felix Dubach,*  
*Head International Market Development,*  
*Andermatt Group AG*
- 16:50** SFIAR Team Award Laudatio  
*Dr. Martijn Sonneveld*
- 16:55** A novel nematode-based biocontrol solution for farmers against the fall armyworm  
*Patrick Fallet, Winner SFIAR PhD Award*
- 17:10** Break
- 17:30** SFIAR Master Thesis Award Laudatio  
*Dr. Martijn Sonneveld*
- 17:35** Influence of residues from black soldier fly larvae rearing on the plant-associated microbiome  
*Adrian Fuhrmann,*  
*Winner SFIAR Master Thesis Award*
- 17:50** Panel Discussion  
*Felix Dubach, Patrick Fallet, Adrian Fuhrmann, and Dani Lucas-Barbosa, Senior Scientist - Entomology & Agroecology, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL; moderated by Paul Castle, Syngenta Foundation*
- 18:40** Presentation of the awards and apéro

# Information

## Registration

Please register by 8 December 2022  
at [www.sfiar.ch/award-ceremony.htm](http://www.sfiar.ch/award-ceremony.htm)

## Fees and refreshments

The event is free of charge.

An apéro will be served after the presentation of awards  
(please indicate your participation on the registration form).

## Language

The event will be held in English, no translation will be provided.

## Directions

ETH Zürich, LEE Building,  
Leonhardstrasse 21,  
8092 Zürich  
Room LEE E101

## Contact

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## Cover photo

Plants damaged by fall armyworm in Rwanda

