Crop Management for Increasing Water Use Efficiency

Dr. Laura Echarte
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Dr. Laura Echarte is a Superior Researcher at the Argentine National Institute of Agricultural Technology (INTA) and also member of the Argentine National Research Council (CONICET). She has a PhD in Agrarian Sciences from the National University of Mar del Plata and was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Guelph and at the University of Waterloo, Canada. This seminar discusses WUEg responses (i) to water supply in maize (Zea mays L.) hybrids released in different decades, (ii) to plant density increments or N supply, for maize and sunflower (Helianthus annuus L.) in environments contrasting in water regimes, and (iii) to termination dates of a winter cover crop in soybean (Glycine max), in a humid environment. Relevant eco-physiological processes underlying the responses of WUEg will be shown and discussed (i.e., intercepted photo synthetically active radiation, soil water depletion profile, the proportion of transpiration in the total water used, crop growth rate during the critical period for kernel set, and transpiration efficiency).