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ASA & IGS’s DR. MAHDI SAATCHI REPRESENTS ASA AT WORLD RENOWNED GENETICS EVENT

Dr. Mahdi Saatchi, American Simmental Association (ASA) and International Genetic Solutions (IGS) Lead Genomicist, recently traveled to Aotea Centre Auckland, New Zealand, to attend the 11th annual World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP). Held every four years, the WCGALP draws scientists together from around the world to attend the scientific program and network with colleagues. Over 1,400 attendees representing 70 countries were at the event held in February.

Dr. Saatchi gave an oral presentation and took part in a poster session to display his work. In addition to giving presentations, Dr. Dorian Garrick, who along with Dr. Bruce Golden developed ASA’s new genetic evaluation software program (BOLT), was heavily involved in the management of the event. Frequent ASA collaborators, Drs. Matt Spangler and Bob Weaber were also in attendance.

“The WCGALP is the premier venue for the exchange and dissemination of ideas in the world of quantitative genetics,” explains ASA’s EVP Dr. Wade Shafer. “It was truly an honor for our own Dr. Mahdi Saatchi to be a speaker at the conference. He presented information on methodology ASA/IGS has leveraged in our new multi-breed evaluation. Other researchers, including Dorian Garrick, one of the architects of IGS's BOLT software platform, presented information on the cutting-edge methodology that is being utilized in BOLT. Our exposure at WCGALP is sure to elevate the reputation of IGS and ASA among the academic community.”

The 2022 WCGALP event will held in Rotterdam, in the Netherlands. To view Dr. Saatchi’s paper visit [simmental.org/press](http://simmental.org/press) releases/MSpaper.pdf. To view the poster, visit [simmental.org/press](http://simmental.org/press) releases/MSposter.jpg.

Founded in 1968, the American Simmental Association is headquartered in Bozeman, MT. ASA is committed to leveraging technology, education and collaboration to accelerate genetic profitability for the beef industry. In keeping with its commitment, ASA, along with its partners, formed International Genetic Solutions — the world's largest genetic evaluation of beef cattle.

**04-18-Saatchi** *Dr. Mahdi Saatchi*

**04-19-Saatchi** *Dr. Mahdi Saatchi and J.R. Tate of GeneSeek®*