

Dr. Bill Biligetu is an Associate Professor, Strategic Research Program Chair in forage crop breeding at the Crop Development Center of the University of Saskatchewan. Over the past decade, his program has focused on developing new varieties of perennial forage species crucial to the western Canadian beef and forage industries such as alfalfa, hybrid brome, meadow brome, and wheatgrasses. His breeding objectives range from improving forage biomass/disease resistance to enhancing salt and drought stress tolerances in these crops. He has released four grass cultivars, co-developed 1 forage barley, and 1 forage wheat varieties. He published over 50 peer-reviewed articles and mentored 15 M.Sc. and Ph.D students to the industry. Biligetu is recipient of the Sask Industry Innovation Award (2018), and Canadian Society of Agronomy Young Researcher Award (2020).