ICGEB WORKSHOP
TRENDS IN MICROBIAL SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE
13 – 15 September 2023. Belgrade, SERBIA
ICGEB WORKSHOP
Trends in microbial solutions for sustainable agriculture
13 – 15 September 2023. Belgrade, Serbia

Ivica Dimkić
Scientific & Organizing Committee Chairperson

Vittorio Venturi
Scientific & Organizing Committee Co-Chairperson

Slavoljub Vukićević
Organizing Committee Co-Chairperson

ORGANIZED AND HOSTED BY

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology, Serbia
International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), Italy
FERTICO, Serbia

SUPPORTED BY

Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS)
Serbian Society of Microbiology
Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation

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ICGEB Workshop
Trends in microbial solutions for sustainable agriculture
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📅 Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Arrival of participants and accommodation

📅 Wednesday, September 13, 2023
Venue - Great Hall of the Municipality of Stari Grad, Makedonska 42

⏰ 08:00-09:00  Registration of participants (COFFEE & SNACKS)
⏰ 09:00-09:40  WELCOME ADDRESS
  • Ivica Dimkić, Vittorio Venturi & Slavoljub Vukićević
  • Jelena Begović, Serbian Minister of Science, Technological Development and Innovation
  • Lawrence Banks, Director General of ICGEB, Italy
  • Luciano Catani, Science Attaché, Embassy of Italy in Belgrade, Serbia
  • Ljubiša Stanisavljević, Dean of the Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia

⏰ 09:45-10:15  Ivica Dimkić (University of Belgrade - Faculty of Biology, Belgrade, Serbia):
Smart biofertilizers as powerful organomineral-microbial soil improvers

Session I:  Biopesticides, biofertilizers & biostimulants
– biological control approach (Part 1)
Chaired by: Marc Ongena, Ken-ichi Yoshida

⏰ 10:15-10:45  Ken-ichi Yoshida (FEMS Ambassador, Kobe University, Japan):
Co-inoculation of Bacillus velezensis strain S141 and Bradyrhizobium strains promotes nodule growth and nitrogen fixation

⏰ 10:50-11:20  Marc Ongena (University of Liège, Belgium):
Ecological and biocontrol functions of secondary metabolites produced by Bacillus velezensis

⏰ 11:25-11:55  Dennis Obonyo Ndolo (ICGEB, Cape Town, South Africa):
Potential of microbial biopesticides in addressing trade challenges

⏰ 12:00-13:00  LUNCH BREAK

Session II:  Biopesticides, biofertilizers & biostimulants
– biological control approach (Part 2)
Chaired by: Monica Höfte, Jovana Grahovac

⏰ 13:00-13:30  Monica Höfte (Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, Ghent University, Belgium):
Potential of cyclic lipopeptide-producing Pseudomonas strains in biocontrol

⏰ 13:35-14:05  Jovana Grahovac (University of Novi Sad - Faculty of Technology, Serbia):
Microbial products for agriculture – challenges of technology transfer to commercial application
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14:10-14:40 Marina Soković (Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković” - National Institute of Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade): Biosolution against microbes for safety and sustainable agriculture

14:45-15:15 Antonio Ferrante (University of Milano, Italy): Application of biostimulants for counteract abiotic stresses

15:20-15:50 Aleksandra Bešlić & Rebeca Fuzinatto Dall’Agnol (Fertico DOO, Serbia & Simbiotica S.r.l., Italy): The future prospect of bacterial fertilizers: from lab to market

15:50-16:15 COFFEE BREAK

Session III

Microbial products for sustainable agriculture (Part 1)
Chaired by: Ivica Dimkić, Vittorio Venturi

16:15-16:45 Vincenzo Michele Sellitto (Biolchim spa, Italy/University of Life Sciences “King Mihai I”, Faculty of Agriculture - Timisoara, Romania): Living soil: a new paradigm for an innovative agriculture. A practical case to phytoparasitic nematodes biocontrol using probiotics and prebiotics approach

16:45-17:15 Wolfgang Vogt (Agrobiota, Germany): Diverse functions of microorganisms in agriculture: which function is fulfilled when, or all at once?

Venue - Garden and Hall Club of the Hotel Palace, Topličin venac 23

17:45-17:55 Group photo in front of the monument to Vojvoda Vuk on Topličin venac square

18:00-19:30 POSTER PARTY with Serbian beverages

19:30-23:00 Welcome Reception

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Venue - Hall “Beogradska Panorama” of the Hotel Palace, 6th floor, Topličin venac 23

08:30-09:00 Registration of participants (COFFEE & SNACKS)

09:00-09:30 Vittorio Venturi (ICGEB, Trieste, Italy): Contact-independent bacterial signalling in the plant beneficial microbiome

Session IV

Plant–microbe interactions
Chaired by: Ines Mandić Mulec, Alessio Mengoni

09:30-10:00 Alessio Mengoni (University of Florence, Italy): When biodiversity preservation meets biotechnology: the challenge of developing synthetic microbiota and the case of symbiotic nitrogen-fixing bacteria
10:05-10:35 Cayo Ramos (Universidad de Málaga-Spanish Research Council, Málaga, Spain): The virulence factors orchestra of the bacterial pathogen of woody hosts Pseudomonas savastanoi

10:40-11:10 Ines Mandić Mulec (Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia): Unveiling the role of bacterial sociality in designing plant growth promoting inoculants

11:30-12:00 Stéphane Compant (Austrian Institute of Technology, Tulln, Austria): Bacterial-fungal interactions and impacts on plant growth and health

12:05-12:35 Gergely Maróti (Institute of Plant Biology, Hungary/University of Public Service, Faculty of Water Sciences, Hungary/Seqomics Biotechnology Ltd.): Molecular-level investigation of algal-bacterial interactions and their utilization for plant biostimulation

12:40-13:40 LUNCH BREAK - Restaurant Klasik of the Hotel Palace

Session V Plant–microbe interactions and the role of synthetic microbial communities

13:40-14:10 Vittoria Catara (University of Catania, Italy): Microbiome-assisted selection of endophytic bacteria for the sustainable cultivation of tomatoes in greenhouse

14:15-14:45 Djordje Bajić (Technical University Delft, The Netherlands): Using fitness landscapes to engineer microbial communities

14:50-15:20 Daniele G. Daffonchio (King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia): Bacterial VOCs contrast rice blast infection by inhibiting fungal virulence rather than growth

15:25-15:55 Ákos T. Kovács (Institute of Biology, Leiden University, The Netherlands): Bacilli in the rhizosphere: interaction and evolution within the biofilm

16:00-16:30 Aleš Lapanje (Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia): Engineering microbial communities by the colloid biology approach

16:35-17:05 COFFEE BREAK

Session VI Microbial products for sustainable agriculture (Part 2)

17:05-17:30 Vincent Lefebvre du Prey (ITAKA S.r.l., Italy): The place of microorganisms in the transition to new farming systems with reference to research, agronomy and IT, using greenhouse vegetables as example

17:35-18:05 Vesna Dragićević (Maize research Institute Zemun Polje Belgrade, Serbia): The effects of bio-fertilizer application on grain yield and quality of maize grown in long-term monoculture
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Botanical Garden “Jevremovac”, Takovska 43
19:00-23:00 GALA DINNER

Friday, September 15, 2023
Studentski trg 3, Belgrade (in front of Faculty of Phylology)
08:00-13:00 Visit to FERTICO enterprise with lunch break (Indjija, Serbia)
Venue - Hall “Beogradska Panorama” of the Hotel Palace, 6th floor, Topličin venac 23

Session VII Microbial products for sustainable agriculture (Part 3)
Chaired by: Vlad Stoian, Marko Vinceković

13:00-13:30 Amitava Rakshit (Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India): Seed bio-priming with microbial inoculants: A tailored approach towards improved crop performance, nutritional security, and agricultural sustainability for smallholder farmers

13:35-14:05 József Fail (Institute of Plant Protection, Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Hungary): Challenges in the management of some key horticultural pests

14:10-15:40 Vlad Stoian (Faculty of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca, România): The use of microscopic tools for the increase of resolution in mycorrhizal assessment

15:45-16:30 Marko Vinceković (Faculty of Agriculture University of Zagreb, Croatia): New types of biofertilizers: microparticles with biological and chemical active components

16:30-17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:00-17:15 ORGANIZATIONAL CLOSING REMARKS - Ivica Dimkić & Vittorio Venturi

17:30 Sightseeing of Belgrade Fortress “Kalemegdan” with professional guide and free evening

19:00-20:30 Optional Danube and Sava Cruise with extra charge - get to know Belgrade from the rivers
Dr. Djordje Fira
1959 – 2022

Full Professor, University of Belgrade,
Faculty of Biology, Serbia

In loving memory of Djordje Fira,
a great scientist and friend

YOUR PRESENCE WE MISS,
YOUR MEMORIES WE TREASURE
Evaluation Questionnaire