



European Plant Science Organisation
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News item

7th EPSO Plant Science Seminar

Brussels, 2.11.2021

We would like to announce the seventh of our new European-wide seminar series by the European Plant Science Organisation (EPSO) and aimed at the Plant Science community and its stakeholders. Our aim is to provide a stimulating set of seminars once a month on a hot and/or emerging topic in plant science, giving the floor to both eminent world leaders and talented up-and-coming early career researchers.

TTT: The seminar will be held online each third Thursday of the month at three (CET).

On **18th November 2021** at 15:00 (CET) we will present three talks exploring the **Use of Diverse Species for Crops**



Assistant Prof Marta Vasconcelos, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Porto, Portugal

“Biodiversity with underutilized crops in Europe: challenges, strategies and benefits”

Marta did a PhD in Biotechnology at Universidade Nova de Lisboa and International Rice Research Institute (Philippines) and Post-Doctoral Research at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, USA. She is now Deputy Director of the Center for Biotechnology and Fine Chemistry (CBQF) at Universidade Católica Portuguesa (UCP). She has been involved in a number of European consortia looking at underutilized crops and is the Coordinator of the H2020 project RADIANT (Realizing Dynamic Value Chains for Underutilized Crops, 2021-2025).



Dr Delphine Renard, CEFE CNRS, Montpellier, France

“Contributions of crop diversity to food security and resilience”

Delphine got her PhD from the University of Montpellier and she did Post-Doctoral research at McGill University in Canada and University of California, USA. Delphine’s research addresses the roles of biodiversity, wild and domesticated (i.e. agrobiodiversity), in the functioning and resilience of complex systems. Her research is interdisciplinary, bridging different domains of ecology (landscape, soil, functional ecology) with social sciences (ethnobiology, archaeology, economy) and spans multiple temporal (from decades to millennium) and spatial (local, regional and national) scales.



Prof Zerihun Tadele, University of Bern, Switzerland

“Promoting productivity of an under-researched crop: the case of tef”

*Zerihun is a Group Leader at the Institute of Plant Sciences, University of Bern and Affiliated Scientist of the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research. He received his PhD from the University of Basel. He is interested to contribute to global food security through improving productivity of tef (*Eragrostis tef*), an indigenous cereal crop from the Horn of Africa. Using genetic and genomic tools, his group focuses on tackling major yield limiting factors in tef.*

The seminars will be hosted on Zoom and last approximately 1.5 hours. Numbers will be limited to 300 attendees and therefore please register early if you would like to join. There will be ample opportunities to ask questions and join the debate. So please join us to support this new and exciting initiative for European Plant Science by following this link just prior to the start of the seminar.

EPSO Members register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwscuqgpz0tEt36RSyQylnhhngEmc5JPET8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

In the coming months we will be on the lookout for talented plant scientists among the EPSO membership to present their findings and perspectives to the EPSO seminar series. If we approach you to talk, we hope you will be happy to support the initiative. This is a fantastic opportunity for **senior as well as early career researchers** to present their research to an international audience and to network with potential collaborators. If you wish to **suggest a theme for one of the spring seminars and / or nominate** yourself or one of your colleagues to give a seminar, we most welcome your suggestions. Please contact Tim George (tim.george@hutton.ac.uk) to provide your name and potential talk title.

We look forward to seeing you all for the next EPSO seminar on the 18th November 2021

Tim George, Alan Schulman and Marie-Theres Hauser
EPSO Plant Science Seminar Series Organising Committee

Contacts

Tim George, Hutton / UK & EPSO Board, tim.george@hutton.ac.uk

Alan Schulman, LUKE / FI & EPSO President, alan.schulman@helsinki.fi

Marie-Theres Hauser BOKU / AUT & EPSO Board, marie-theres.hauser@boku.ac.at

Useful links

EPSO breaking news: <https://epsoweb.org>

EPSO member institutes and universities: <https://epsoweb.org/about-epso/epso-members/>

EPSO representatives: <https://epsoweb.org/about-epso/representatives/>

About EPSO

EPSO, the European Plant Science Organisation, is an independent academic organisation that represents more than 200 research institutes, departments and universities from 32 countries, mainly from Europe, and 2.700 individuals Personal Members, representing over 26 000 people working in plant science. EPSO's mission is to improve the impact and visibility of plant science in Europe, to provide authoritative source of independent information on plant science including science advice to policy, and to promote training of plant scientists to meet the 21st century challenges in breeding, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, plant ecology and sectors related to plant science. <https://epsoweb.org> | EU Transparency Register Number 38511867304-09