

COST Action CA18111 "Genome Editing in Plants"

Online lecture series

Date: October 26, 2022 – 4 PM CET

(Upcoming lecture in 2022: November 31, 2022; 4 PM CET)

Speaker 1



Prof. Daniel Voytas – Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development, Center for Precision Plant Genomics, University of Minnesota, USA

Title: Overcoming bottlenecks in plant gene editing

Speaker 2



Dr. Concetta Licciardello - Consiglio per la ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria (CREA), Centro di ricerca Olivicoltura Frutticoltura Agrumicoltura (OFA), Italy

Title: Two case studies to improve citrus fruit quality by using the New Plant Breeding Techniques

About Prof. Dan Voytas

Dr. Dan Voytas is a Professor in the Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development and the Director of the Center for Precision Plant Genomics at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Voytas graduated from Harvard College in 1984 and received his Ph.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1990. He conducted postdoctoral research at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine where he was a fellow of the Life Science Research Foundation. Prior to joining the University of Minnesota in 2008, Dr. Voytas was a professor at Iowa State University. Dr. Voytas' research focuses on developing methods to edit plant genomes. His laboratory developed a powerful genome editing reagent – Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nucleases (TALENs) – which was heralded by Science magazine as one of the top ten scientific breakthroughs of 2012. Dr. Voytas' lab is currently optimizing methods for efficiently making targeted genome modifications in a variety of plant species to advance basic biology and develop new crop varieties. In addition to his position at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Voytas co-founded Calyxt, an agricultural biotechnology company that uses gene editing for crop improvement. He currently serves Chair of the Science Advisory Board for Calyxt. In 2019, Dr. Voytas was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

About Dr. Concetta Licciardello

Dr. Licciardello graduated in Biological sciences in 2003 and received her PhD in Plant Biotechnology in 2008. Since 2010, she is a permanent researcher in Plant genetics at CREA - Research Centre for Olive, Fruit and Citrus Crops in Acireale, Italy.

Dr. Licciardello her research focus is on the study of molecular mechanisms responsible for the anthocyanin pigmentation and acidless trait in citrus fruits, sweet orange resequencing addressed to the identification of SNPs, indel, and structural variants for traceability and true-to-type clonal fingerprinting. She also is experienced in the use of new plant breeding techniques to improve qualitative traits in citrus fruits and in genomics and transcriptomics to investigate the resistance/susceptibility of citrus to biotic diseases.

Dr. Licciardello is author of more than 40 papers, three plant patents, is scientific responsible of regional, national and European projects, and is tutor of undergraduate and PhD students, and post-doctoral.

How to join the lecture session?

You can register for this online lecture session by submitting your name and email here:

<https://forms.gle/uYM13eWA7qpibq7a7>

A link to join the session will be sent to you later in October.

Program of upcoming online lecture series

November 30, 2022 – 4 PM CET

Prof. Neal Steward, Centre of Agricultural Synthetic Biology, University of Tennessee, USA

Prof. Sadiye Hayta, John Innes Centre, UK