



Press Release



16.12.2021, Brussels

Join the International "Fascination of Plants Day" on May 18, 2022

The fascinating world of plants will be once more in the spotlight thanks to the European Plant Science Organisation (EPSO, <http://www.epsoweb.org>), which invites you to celebrate the sixth Fascination of Plants Day on and around May 18th 2022. For this purpose, scientific institutions, universities, botanical gardens and museums, together with schools, farmers and companies will offer a variety of plant-based interactive events and activities for all interested people from toddlers to grandparents.

The Fascination of Plants Day (FoPD) was first launched in 2012, followed by FoPDs from 2013 to 2019 at which over 860 events were organised in over 51 countries world-wide, attracting many thousand visitors. This coordinated activity aims to plant virtual and constantly germinating seeds in the collective mind of people, recalling that plant science is of critical significance to social, environmental and economic issues on our Earth today and in future.

Join in and offer activities at your or other facilities or participate as a visitor! All information about this initiative can be accessed at <http://www.plantday18may.org> and is supported by a network of national coordinators who voluntarily promote and disseminate the activities within their countries.

Plants are unique organisms. They can produce sugars just from sunlight, carbon dioxide and water. This ability to directly synthesize their own food has enabled plants to successfully colonize, adapt to, and diversify within almost every niche on the planet and biologists estimate the total number of plant species to be about 250,000. These abilities make plants the primary producers of biomass providing animals and mankind with food, feed, paper, medicine, chemicals, energy, and an enjoyable landscape. Anyone who would like to contribute to the Fascination of Plants Day (FoPD) is welcome to join in. Just contact your National Coordinator (click on "countries" at www.plantday18may.org) to discuss and get access to all the supporting materials. The media are also kindly invited to get involved, and scientists, farmers, politicians and industrialists will discuss with them and present the latest state-of-the-art breakthroughs in the plant science world and explore all of the new potential applications plant sciences can offer. The Fascination of Plants Day covers all plant related topics including basic plant science, agriculture, horticulture & gardening, forestry, plant breeding, plant protection, food & nutrition, environmental conservation, climate change mitigation, smart bioproducts, biodiversity, sustainability, renewable resources, plant science education & art.

The previous International Fascination of Plants Days were an incredible start of the initiative see for yourself the success stories at https://plantday18may.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Booklet_FoPD_Success_StoriesVF.pdf.

Events and facts at <https://plantday18may.org/countries/> <https://plantday18may.org/statistics/>

Images at <https://plantday18may.org/pr-toolbox/> **Twitter #PlantDay**

Contact Global Coordinators [Trine Hvoslef-Eide](#), Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway; T: +47 934 33 775; [Przemysław Wojtaszek](#), Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland; T: +48 61 8295972 (5968); [Alexandra Barnoux](#), EPSO, BE; Publications Officer; T: +32-2-2136262; [Karin Metzloff](#), EPSO, BE; Executive Director; T: +32-2-2136260