



News item

European Plant Science Organisation
<https://epsoweb.org>

9th EPSO Plant Science Seminar

Brussels, 22.12.2021

We would like to announce the ninth of our European-wide seminar series by the European Plant Science Organisation (EPSO) and aimed at the Plant Science community and its stakeholders. As we move into our second year, we continue 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 20th January 2022 at 15:00 (CET) we will present three talks exploring the Potential of Plants as Alternative Protein Sources



Dr Paolo Annicchiarico, CREA, Italy

“Legume crop improvement: challenges and opportunities”

Paolo’s research deals with the promotion and improvement of legumes for cropping systems and focusses on genomic selection and breeding for tolerance to stress and crop quality. He is responsible for public breeding programs on alfalfa, pea, white lupin, soybean, faba bean and white clover and is President of the International Legume Society. His current role as Director of Research at CREA, comes after research roles in both University of Wales, UK and ICARDA in Aleppo, Syria. He has produced over 280 publications and has been coordinator of a number of EU and national projects focussed on legumes.



Prof Nesli Sözer, VTT, Finland

“Challenges and opportunities with plant based ingredients as alternative protein sources”

Nesli is a research professor at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland focusing on smart and sustainable food production. She has a strong background on food operations, food rheology and functionalising plant biopolymers for health-promoting foods. Nesli has coordinated several national and international multidisciplinary projects focusing on protein fractionation and modification for food use and agile food manufacturing technologies. She has more than 60 peer-reviewed publications, one book, several invention disclosures and patent applications. She is also chair of Healthgrain forum (<https://healthgrain.org/>).



Assoc Prof Stig U Andersen, Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Aarhus University, Denmark

“Faba bean genomics and diversity - improving a globally adapted protein crop”

Stig's research group focuses on legume genetics and genomics powered by next-generation sequencing. Recent work includes establishment of a large insertion mutant collection for legume genetics (<https://lotus.au.dk/>) and investigation of natural diversity and adaptation in *Lotus japonicus*, white clover and faba bean. Faba bean is a major focus area where Stig acts as partner or coordinator in a number of international faba bean projects and coordinates the faba bean genome consortium (www.fabagenome.dk). Before taking his current position, Stig worked in a biotech start-up company and performed postdoctoral research focusing on stem cell biology and cell cycle regulation at the Max Planck Institute in Tübingen, Germany.

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 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/tJEpc--qpjwiH9RFhVQiEJMZvTKVZfQhHpvX>

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 20th January 2022

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

Contacts

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Useful links

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

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

EPSO representatives: <https://epsoweb.org/about-epsso/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