

## 10<sup>th</sup> EPSO Plant Science Seminar

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*Brussels, 31.1.2022*

We would like to announce the tenth 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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 15:00 (CET) we will present three talks exploring the **Potential of Plants as Bio-Farming Factories**.



**Assoc Prof Heiko Rischer, VTT, Finland**

**“Plant cell cultures as food - concept and applications”**

Heiko is Research Team Leader of Plant Biotechnology at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd. and Adjunct Professor in Pharmaceutical Biology at the University of Helsinki. He is an expert in plant cell and tissue culture techniques, analytics of secondary metabolites including metabolic profiling and the biotechnological production, up to industrial scales, of phytopharmaceuticals and other plant-derived compounds. Currently he has a strong focus on the development of plant-based Cellular Agriculture aiming at sustainable food production.



**Prof Herta Steinkellner, BOKU, Austria**

**“COVID-19: Plant produced novel antibody variants open up therapeutic approach”**

Herta is a research professor in the Dept of Applied Genetics and Cell Biology at BOKU, Austria. Herta focuses plant-based pathway engineering and recombinant protein expression, with special focus on antibodies; posttranslational modification with special focus on glycosylation; intracellular protein targeting and deposition. She has been associate professor for over 20 years and spent eight years as director of the Laura Bassi Centre PlantBioP. She has more than 115 peer-reviewed publications, four book chapters and four patent applications.



**Assoc Prof Johannes Buyel, Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology, Germany**

**“Product and process development in plant molecular farming”**

Johannes heads the Bioprocess Engineering Department at Fraunhofer IME and has experience in the development of tailor-made upstream production and downstream processing for 50+ recombinant proteins, small molecules and DNA in different expression systems

such as E. coli, yeast, plant cell cultures and whole plants. Johannes was involved in the two international projects PHARMAPLANT and FUTURE-PHARMA and received a €2.5 million Fraunhofer Attract grant for a project to establish a model-driven high-throughput expression and purification platform for recombinant proteins (FAST-PEP). His work is strongly inter- and cross-disciplinary, combining research in, biotechnology, bioprocess engineering, informatics, mathematics, data science, oncology, cosmetics and nutrition. He has currently more than 50 publications

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/tJwlcuivrTouGteGmh68VuJZ7olcqyQF3b0K>

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](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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

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#### Contacts

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#### 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