



Spring 2022 newsletter

This is the shorter public version. All articles with * are only in the full Newsletter available on the members' only website.

Editorial

Scientists contributing to building a better Europe and world: Stop war in Ukraine! Offer support to Ukrainian scientists. Contribute to food security

EPSO activities

- Plant Health Working Group: Healthy Plants for a sustainable production - 1st meeting on 5.7.2022
- 6th Fascination of Plants Day around the 18th May – join the initiative!
- EPSO Plant Science Seminar starts a second year as a feature in the Plant Science calendar
- Stick to Science campaign - Put science collaboration before politics
- *Meeting of the EPSO WG Agricultural Technologies 23.11.2021
- *EPSO 5th informal science – policy meeting on genome editing in Europe, online, 4.11.2022
- *The Outreach and Public Dialogue Working Group welcomes your contributions
- *Weave - supporting excellent collaborative research projects across borders
- Joint Call on Agrobiodiversity by SusCrop ERA-Net and FACCE-JPI
- SusCrop seminar on sustainable crop production & workshop on innovation - 10-12.05.2022
- *The Future Proofed Crops Working Group will meet first in Brussels in October 2022
- *EPSO workshop linking Diverse Crops, Cropping Systems and Diets for Food and Nutritional Security, 26.10.2021

Members' news

- The Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany - welcome as member
- CHIC will release videos to better understand the project in 8 languages!
- *Austrian initiative 'Medicines for Future' launches development of COVID-19 therapy
- *Towards an increased efficiency of photosynthesis in field food crops within the next decade
- CropBooster-P assesses the economic, social, and environmental impact of identified strategies
- *The International Barley Hub is looking for collaborators
- Discover InnCocells' progress through its podcast and Academy events
- *Engineering betalain biosynthesis in tomato for high level betanin production in fruits
- *Blue light inhibits immune response of potato to late blight disease
- *ASTER - Agroecology-inspired Strategies and Tools in tomato
- *Grant opportunities within the Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) for plant science
- *StressKnowledgeMap compile global knowledge on plant responses to stress
- Join the 7th International Plant Phenotyping Symposium, IPSS 2022, 26-30.09.2022

*National, European and global funding

- *National Research Funding Opportunities in Sweden
- *National Research Funding Opportunities in Austria
- *Apply to COST open call by 20.10.2022 and attend the EPSO-COST Info session on 29.04.2022
- *LIFE Calls 2022 are expected to be published on 17.05.2022

*Career opportunities and meetings

About EPSO



Scientists contributing to building a better Europe and world: Stop war in Ukraine! Offer support to Ukrainian scientists. Contribute to food security.

Over the last month, we have witnessed the incomprehensible and unimaginable descend on Europe for the first time in more than 80 years: an unprovoked, brutal, full-scale war on one of the European family of nations, Ukraine, and its people by its neighbour, the Russian Federation.

While violating several international treaties securing Ukraine's border, **the Russian Federation also violates international law:**

Article 51(2) of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions:

"The civilian population as such, as well as individual civilians, shall not be the object of attack. Acts or threats of violence, the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population, are prohibited."

The UN convention, article 2, paragraph 4:

"The Organization and its Members, in pursuit of the purposes stated in Article 1, shall act in accordance with the following principles...."

4. All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations."



We as scientists wish to contribute to building a better Europe and world. At this critical moment, our immediate goal is to do our best to alleviate the suffering we are witnessing daily in Ukraine.



Concrete actions you as scientists can take:

- Add positions for Ukrainians on a google sheet which was started by Andrew Kern, University of Oregon. It already became very large, supported by e.g. EPSO, GPC, DBG, ASPB, and is well distributed in the Ukrainian networks.
To add a new lab to this list, use this [form](#). For UKR scientists to find labs, use this [search list](#)
- Use #ScienceForUkraine for the European group of volunteers to add your actions to the assembled resource they create for UKR.
- Offer free accommodation for Ukrainian refugees fleeing war on the website <https://www.ukrainetakeshelter.com/> launched in 12 languages by Avi Schiffmann and Marco Burstein (Harvard students).
- Retweet [tweet link](#) from 17.3.2022 to spread the link with labs and accommodation.
- Strengthen collaboration and integration between Western and Ukrainian research institutions, universities and scientific organisations. [[Letter from UKR Scientific Committee](#), 18.3.2022]

The war requires us not only to rethink defence of democratic countries and energy security, but as well food security. It impacts agriculture in Ukraine, ultimately leading to a shortage of cereals (mainly wheat), soy (feed) and nitrogen fertiliser. This will affect not only Europe, but as well developing countries.

As (plant) scientists we urge policy makers to tackle this with high priority and urgency. The research and innovation framework needs to encourage all contributions possible to achieve food and nutritional security, together with human health and sustainable environment.

We need to combine all available approaches from crop improvement, including new breeding technologies, to crop management, including traditional, organic, plants and microbiome interactions, and to crop processing, to achieve the best possible impact.

Plant scientists can contribute to many of these areas: we can help improving crops (including cereals) for better water and nutrient use efficiency (including nitrogen, reducing fertilisers), to become more resilient to pests and diseases (reducing pesticides) and enhancing micronutrients by diversifying crops for environmental (biodiversity) benefits as well as for human health. Organic practices can be further improved by understanding and using plants and microbiomes interactions.

We are ready to address this challenge together with breeders, farmers, food processors and retailers and the consumers. We need policy makers to further rethink research and innovation programmes as well as improving the regulatory framework, public procurement and tax incentives. Policy makers should define the goals and leave the pathways how to achieve these open to encourage true innovation, out-of-the-box collaboration and progress.

EPSO invites all stakeholders to collaborate to build a better Europe and world!

Links: [EPSO UKR statement, 28.2.2022](#) & [EPSO News item, 17.3.2022](#)

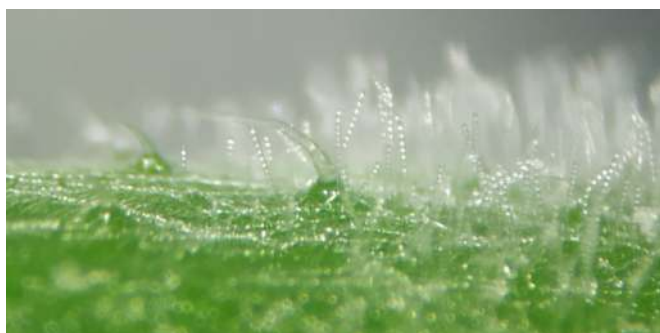
Contacts: [Karin Metzloff](#), EPSO Executive Director & [Alan Schulman](#), EPSO President



EPSO Activities



Plant Health Working Group: Healthy Plants for a sustainable production - 1st meeting on 5.7.2022



Raising the societal awareness on how plant health protection could contribute to food security, sustain farmers' income, protect biodiversity and reduce impacts on the environment, ensuring a high-quality product and boosting economic development is a major challenge. This requires a joint effort and engagement of academia with industry, farmers, citizens and policy

makers.

That is why EPSO is pleased to announce the start of its new [Working Group 'Plant Health'](#), focusing on the impact of pathogens and pests onto plants and plant protection in agriculture, forestry and the natural (non-human made) environment. It encompasses the continuum from basic to applied research.

To become a member of this WG, nominate 1-2 expert scientists per organization by contacting Karin Metzloff, cc [Sofia Ciravegna](#) and the chairs best by end April 2022.

The first meeting of the new EPSO 'Plant Health Working Group' will be held online on 5th July 2022 to discuss its [draft statement](#) and next steps.

Contacts: [Beat Keller](#), Univ Zurich, CH, [Karin Metzloff](#), EPSO



Scientists, students, companies and farmers across the world prepare to celebrate the 6th Fascination of Plants Day around the 18th May – join the initiative!



Fascination of Plants Day 2022

The 18th of May 2022 will be the 6th international Fascination of Plants Day (FoPD), organised under the umbrella of the EPSO, to celebrate plants in all their diversity and wonder. Events will be organised around this date— starting before 18.5. until autumn 2022.



This is a huge opportunity to bring your research to the wider public, and in order to celebrate in the best possible way, we ask you to join in!

56 countries have confirmed their participation and two events are already available on FoPD website. Many plant science institutions, universities, botanical gardens, and museums, together with farmers and companies, will open their doors with a variety of plant-based interactive

events for all the family. Organise and check out events in your country at www.plantday18may.org.

The goal is to get as many people as possible around the world fascinated by plants and there are many ways to hold interactive events. Get inspired by the Success Stories from 2019 and 2021, a selection of the over 860 events from across the five continents. In 2021, for the Gap Year and despite Covid-19, 21 countries organized more than 160 events.



You may choose a theme, e.g. from the major contributions plant science can make to reach the UN Sustainable Development Goals – including Food and Nutritional Security, environmental sustainability and climate change, and how we can be at the frontiers by combining tradition with innovation.

We encourage you to share fascinating facts about and photos and videos of plants, your research, and events using the hashtag #PlantDay and/or send them to us at plantday@epsomail.org to upload to our [@PlantDay18May](https://twitter.com/PlantDay18May) Twitter, [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PlantDay18May), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/PlantDay18May) and [@fascinationofplantsday](https://www.instagram.com/fascinationofplantsday) Instagram channels. You can also help for the fascinating world of plants to be broadcast to the wider public through local and national newspapers, television and radio.

EPSO provides you with the high-definition publicity tools and the necessary information for free via our PR

toolbox. We invite you to download the flyer and poster templates. You are free to translate these and add the relevant contact people for your events.

And to allow interested people to know more about your research project join the Research page of the FoPD website; like CHIC, InnCoCells and EMPHASIS projects. For more details on how to join, please contact Alexandra Barnoux.



We look forward to everyone from school children to professors enjoying the day!

Contacts: [Karin Metzloff](#) (Overall coordination); [Przemysław Wojtaszek](#) (European coordination); [Alexandra Barnoux](#) (EPSO Publications Officer); [Trine Hvoslef-Eide](#) (Coordination beyond Europe)



Fascination of Plants Day
May 18th 2022



Everybody is welcome to join this initiative, which started with extraordinary success in May 2013 and continued to grow across the world from 2013 to 2019.

We invite YOU to organize around the 18th of May 2022 a fascinating and interactive activity related to plants, attracting and interacting with the public, open to all the family. Share and discover the latest state-of-the-art research and breakthroughs in the plant science world and explore all of the new potential applications plant science can offer.

To join the initiative along with schools, farmers, producers, scientists, media and policy makers contact your National Coordinator to assist you with the organization of your events!

If you want to become a sponsor of Fascination of Plants Day, contact us: plantday@epsomail.org



www.plantday18may.org #PlantDay





EPSO Plant Science Seminar starts a second year as a feature in the Plant Science calendar

CellCoffee



VTT The Third Thursday at Three has become a key feature of the Plant Science

calendar as it moves into its second year. Back in March 2021,

we had the inaugural EPSO Plant Science Seminar on Gene editing, while this month we had our 10th seminar, and our second of 2022. This year so far, we have had seminars on Plants as Alternative Protein Sources and Plants as Bio-farming factories. Both seminars were very well attended, with around 150 participants at each, but the virtual seminar room has plenty of seats, so please support this initiative by joining the ranks for future seminars.

Before this, in the lead up to the winter break, we held diverse seminars on "Future of Plant Nutrition" and "Use of Diverse Species for Crops". We have learnt about the fascinating research underway, on subjects ranging from the use of plants to produce alternative products such as Covid-19 antibodies and alternative protein sources and meat substitutes, through to the genetics of stress tolerance in legume species to the cutting edge in techniques to understand the nutrition of plants at the soil root interface and the need to use a much more diverse crop base for our agricultural and food systems.

While each seminar has had a focus on a specific topic all have had some fascinating insights for anyone with an enquiring mind.

As we move into the spring, we will be having seminars organised by the EPSO Working Groups, highlighting the work they do for the promotion of research and impact in specific areas.

Coming up we have seminars hosted by the working groups on Plants and Microbiomes (March), Nutritional Security (April), Trees (May) and Future Proofed Crops (June).

We will be looking for more subjects to cover in the autumn season of the seminar series, so if you wish to nominate yourself or one of your colleagues to give a seminar, please contact Tim George (tim.george@hutton.ac.uk) to provide your name and potential talk title.

So, remember TTT: be available on the **Third Thursday** of the month at **Three** (CET) for some inspirational talks from European Plant Science.

Contact: [Tim George](mailto:tim.george@hutton.ac.uk), The James Hutton Institute, Dundee, UK



Stick to Science campaign - Put science collaboration before politics



Stick to Science

Put science collaboration before politics

EPSO Supports the «[Stick to Science](#)» initiative which aims at speeding up the association of Switzerland and the United Kingdom to Horizon Europe

The Stick to Science initiative was launched to promote open cooperation between all European actors in the field of research and innovation. "Stick to Science is a response to the delays in the EU's association agreements with Switzerland and the UK. This association is currently delayed by political reasons that have nothing to do with science. As a result, it is not possible for the two countries to continue to participate in Horizon Europe in an efficient, significant and free way. In contrast, an association with many other third countries has been finalised by the end of 2021.

While for the UK there is a commitment from the EU within the framework of the Brexit treaties for an association, but the finalisation is not progressing, in the case of Switzerland everything is apparently connected with the negotiations on a general CH - EU framework agreement that failed in 2021. Since Switzerland has already made all the arrangements for an association and has also already provided the budget for it, it seems that the EU is using this association to exert pressure on the other negotiation packages.

In both cases, the blocking link between science and the political agenda has an enormous impact on the European research community by creating major

obstacles to the free exchange of ideas and to research collaborations. While Switzerland was the most active associated country in the last Framework Programme, contributing mainly in the areas of health, ecology, climate, quantum technology, the UK has provided enormous inputs as the most frequent collaborative partner among the member countries.

The association of third countries not only leads to better scientific exchange, but also significantly increases the available research budget. The UK and Switzerland, if associated, would contribute an additional €17.2 billion to the existing Horizon Europe budget of €95.5 billion - 18% more research funding for Europe! At present, the UK and Switzerland can also participate in some funding instruments as non-associated states (e.g. without management functions), whereby the funds required for the Swiss project share are provided directly by Switzerland.

EPSO joined the initiative by signing as an organisation. From 4-8 April 2022, Stick to Science organized a week of action to safeguard scientific collaboration in Europe, and at international level. On 18.3.2022 there were 4,773 signatories in total

Especially in times of crisis, free research and innovation are needed - "Stick to science" for a highly connected and successful European research community!

Contacts: [Roland Peter](#), Agroscope, CH & [Karin Metzloff](#), EPSO



Joint Call on Agrobiodiversity by the SusCrop ERA-Net and FACCE-JPI



SusCrop ERA-Net **FACCEJPI**

FACCE-JPI and the ERA-NET SusCrop are pleased to announce the launch of a Joint Call on Agrobiodiversity.

Research proposals should have the purpose of providing practical and policy-relevant knowledge on how agrobiodiversity can improve resilience of agroecosystems, especially those most at risk.

The call for proposals aims also to support reinvigorating farming practices for improved ecological connectivity and biodiversity as a natural asset at landscape level. Opportunities and obstacles to farming/landscape diversification should be identified and monitored.

Funding organisations from 17 different countries including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania,

Poland, Romania (tbc), Spain, Sweden, Turkey, and UK committed to the Call.

The call consists of a one-stage submission procedure (only full proposals), including a mandatory pre-registration.

Interested researchers must pre-register their proposals by May 4, 2022 (12 noon CEST). Deadline for submission of pre-registered proposals is June 22, 2022 (12 noon CEST).

More information can be found on: <https://www.suscrop.eu/2022-joint-call>.

Karin Metzloff (EPSO) is official observer in SusCrop, advising on science strategy, stakeholder engagement and outreach. EPSO supports as well project dissemination.

Contact: [Nikki De Clerq](#), Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO), BE



SusCrop “European seminar on research and innovation in sustainable crop production & workshop on enhancement and optimization of innovation” 10-12.05.2022



On May 10-12, 2022, the ERA-Net SusCrop organises a “European seminar on research and innovation in sustainable crop production & workshop on enhancement and optimization of innovation” in Aarhus (Denmark).

This event includes:

- the end term meeting of the research projects of the [1st co-funded Call](#);
- a workshop on enhancement and optimization of innovation plus key note presentations;
- a visit of [AU Foulum](#); and
- many opportunities to network at the social events and excursions

Researchers and stakeholders are very welcome to either physically join or attend online (most of the events will be streamed online). **Participation is free!**

The full conference programme and registration link are available on: <https://conferences.au.dk/suscrop/>

Contact: [Nikki De Clerq](#), Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO), BE



Members' news



The Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany—welcome as member



The Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany, investigates how organisms communicate with each other via chemical signals. We analyze ecological

interactions with molecular, chemical and neurobiological techniques. The overarching goals of our research are to gain basic insights into the chemical communication between plants, insects and microorganisms, to understand the processes in the brain of insects, which control their behavior, and to comprehend how these aspects influence the development of single organisms as well as the evolution of species. The institute has about 350 coworkers including guests and students and offers central service for NMR, mass spectrometry, statistical analyses and microscopic imaging.

About half of the scientists of the institute are involved in research on plants.

The Department of Natural Product Biosynthesis elucidates biosynthetic pathways and structures of plant metabolites in order to use this knowledge to produce novel metabolic pathways and substances in model organisms. The focus of research is on alkaloids and iridoids. The research may be of value in producing large amounts of pharmaceutically-important plant metabolites.

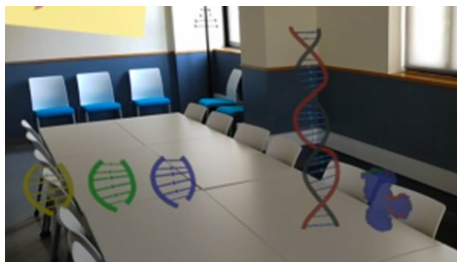
The Department of Biochemistry investigates the role of chemistry in plant-herbivore interactions focusing on the effects of plant-produced defenses on herbivores, and studying how herbivorous insects or their associated microbes metabolize these chemical compounds. The goal is to use chemical tools to shed light on the evolution of herbivore-host plant relationships and their ecological consequences.

The Research Group Plant Defense Physiology is studying the local and systemic processes initiated in plants by herbivore attack. Knowledge of the chemical mechanisms involved in plant defense can suggest new approaches to pest protection in agriculture and forestry.

Contact: [Angela Overmeyer](#) MPICE, DE



CHIC will release videos to better understand the project in 8 languages!



The CHIC project aims to make its research on chicory accessible and easy to understand to a lay public. To do

so, it will release translations of its initial set of videos explaining how the CHIC project is implemented by the work packages. The eight languages available are: Dutch, German, Finnish, French, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, and Spanish. EPSO encourages its members to help disseminating these videos to their network. Videos are available at <https://bit.ly/36VqDCz> and sorted by languages' playlists. As Stakeholders are also involved (Academia, farmers, industry, NGOs), a new set of videos will be published in 2022 to explain how they've contributed to and benefited from the CHIC project.

Also, to target a younger public, MyCHICFarm, an augmented reality (AR) game was developed to allow

students to learn more about new genome editing techniques and to share more about the project. It is available on [Google Play](#) for Android systems and soon on iOS. You can contact [Ronald Tipan](#) if you know schools which might be interested in hosting a demonstration of this game in Europe.

EPSO is partner in the CHIC project coordinating stakeholder engagement and supporting communication and dissemination.

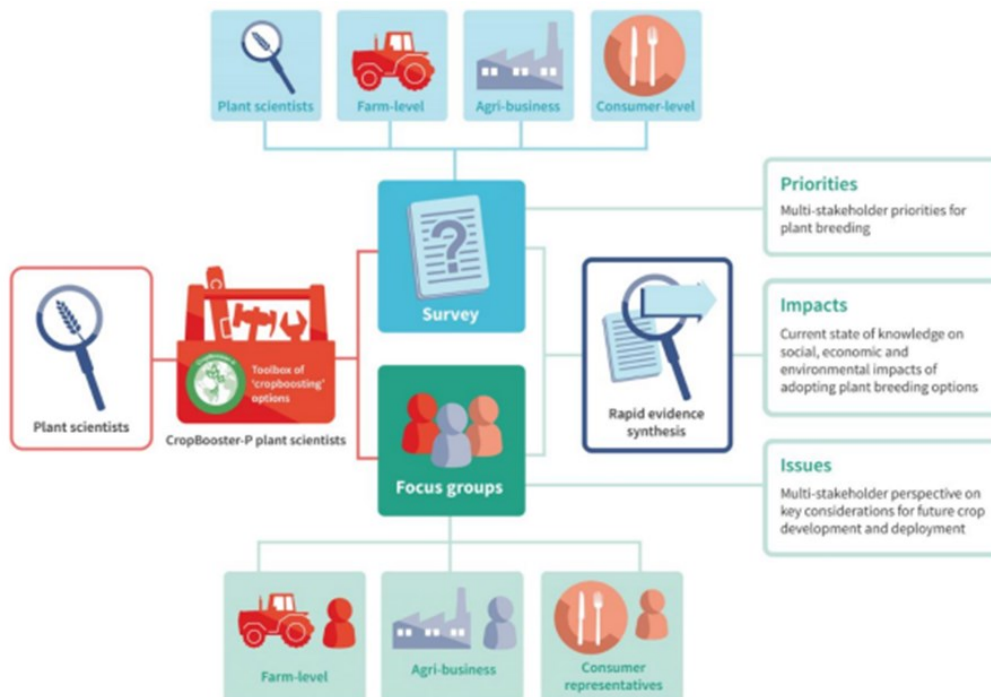
To stay updated, you can follow CHIC on its social media and on its [website](#). Its next newsletter will be released in July 2022.

Contacts: [Macarena Sanz](#), ID Consortium, ES; [Dirk Bosch](#) (Coordinator), Wageningen University, NL

The CHIC project is funded by the European Union under Horizon 2020 G.A. 760891.



To future proof European crops, CropBooster-P assesses the economic, social, and environmental impact of identified strategies



In the CropBooster-P project an assessment was made of the economic, social, and environmental impact of identified strategies to future proof European crops, taking into account potential for increased yields, superior nutritional quality, and sustainability. This was achieved through a combination of expert panels, literature review, and data synthesis, and a workshop integrating and reviewing the partial outcomes from earlier project results.

The approach taken was to involve insights from key actors at each stage across the food-system considering economic, social, and environmental impacts of the futureproofing strategies. These actors were subsequently brought together to provide a food system analysis in an integrating workshop. In 2021, a multi-actor workshop was organized to integrate the different perspectives across farm, business and

consumer level stakeholders. The main priorities identified in this workshop were:

- Farmers, consumers and plant scientists selected sustainability as the priority goal for crop improvement in the EU, whereas agribusiness representatives prioritized yields.
- Stakeholders across the agri-food system broadly agree that crop improvements that enhance sustainability-related traits are important for future-proofing the food system in Europe
- Improving plant water use, improving photosynthesis and increasing protein content and quality were identified as priority crop improvements in most stakeholder categories.

Contact: [Rene Klein Lankhorst](#), Wageningen University & Research, NL



Join the 7th International Plant Phenotyping Symposium, IPPS 2022, 26-30.09.2022



The 7th International Plant Phenotyping Symposium, **IPPS 2022**, which will take place in Wageningen, The Netherlands on September 26 – 30, 2022, brings together a multidisciplinary community of plant biologists, ecologists, engineers, agronomists and computer scientists. In a rich and diverse networking environment we foster knowledge exchange, collaboration and innovation.

IPPS 2022 will serve as a platform to discuss and realize options to harness the power of plant

phenotyping and contribute to a sustainable future. The conference brings together prominent speakers from around the globe and offers an excellent network opportunity for academia and for companies and other partners from the private sector.

For more information and registration, please see IPPS7.org

Contact: [Rene Klein Lankhorst](#), Wageningen University & Research, NL



Discover InnCocells' progress through its podcast and Academy events



Lythrum salicaria, one of the 20 plant species selected for further investigation (source: PAT)

The EU-funded InnCoCells project has made significant progress during its first 6 months. We have selected 20 plant species that are listed on the CosIng and IECIC databases and that also show the greatest potential to produce bioactive ingredients. We are currently testing these species by establishing cell lines and hairy root cultures, as well as optimizing root growth in aeroponic cultivation trials. Laboratory-scale cultures in flasks and bioreactors are being tested in the presence and absence of light, and we have established optimal conditions for cryopreservation. In parallel we have begun to select tools and targets for genome editing in tomato.

We are scaling up the cultivation of cells that are already grown in the laboratory to increase product yields. One apple cell line grows well at the 40-L scale and we are now aiming for 300 L. We are also scaling up the growth of cells lines from pitaya, tomato and other apple varieties, and have developed scale-up plans for scurvy grass and willowherb. We have also prepared three new field plots and have completed the planting of *Geranium*.

For downstream processing, biomass feedstocks have been selected for stabilization and initial extraction. We

have established standard operating procedures for extraction and bioactivity assays, and are discussing innovative and sustainable downstream processing methods with technology providers. Initially we are focusing on hydrophilic and lipophilic extracts, as well as supercritical CO₂ extraction. The preliminary chemical analysis of a series of plant materials to evaluate their bioactive components is already complete.

The technical progress of the project has been matched by initial exploitation and dissemination activities, including the preparation of an exploitation plan, the engagement of a Stakeholder Group to ensure the project remains focused on market needs, and the development of a raft of dissemination and communication measures, including a [project website](#) and social media presence ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)), [leaflets](#), presentations at conferences and exhibitions, a [podcast series](#), and the hosting of [InnCoCells Academy events](#) to highlight the scientific and technological principles underlying the project.

EPSO is partner in the InnCoCells project developing and engaging a Stakeholder Group and supporting communication and dissemination.

Contacts: [Kirsi-Marja Oksman](#) (Coordinator) VTT, FI & [Richard M. Twyman](#) (Dissemination & Communication Lead) TRM Ltd, UK

InnCoCells project is funded by the European Union under Horizon 2020 G.A.101000373

**FoPD 2022 around
18.05.2021, worldwide**
Contact: [Alexandra Barnoux](#)



**EPSO General Meeting
13 - 15 June 2022
Bordeaux, FR**
Contact: [Karin Metzloff](#)



**EPSO webinar series,
online: 21.04, 19.05,
23.06, 15.09.2022**
Contact: [Tim George](#)



EPSO, the European Plant Science Organisation, is an independent academic international non-profit organisation that represents over 200 leading academic research institutes, universities and departments from 32 countries. Together they represent over 26 000 plant researchers and staff. In addition, EPSO has over 2.600 personal members.

The mission of EPSO is to promote plant science and plant scientists, to represent plant scientists in discussions about future plant science programme priorities across Europe, to provide an authoritative source of independent information on plant science (science advice to policy), and to promote training of plant scientists to meet 21st Century challenges in breeding, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, plant ecology and sectors related to plant science.

To achieve its mission, EPSO advises policy and decision makers at European and national level on science policy, as an independent body and as member of the Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE) and the European Technology Platform 'Plants for the Future' (Plant ETP). EPSO supports plant scientists via the EPSO working group meetings, a monthly seminar series, workshops, internships and as information broker via EPSO briefings, newsletter and its website.

EPSO's strategy is defined by the representatives at the General Meeting and further elaborated by the elected Board. Current Board members are Alal Schulman (President – FI), Angelo Santino (Vice-President—IT), Ulrich Schurr (DE), Isabelle Litrico (FR), Ernst van den Ende (NL), Antonio Leyva (ES), Przemysław Wojtaszek (PL) and Marie-Theres Hauser (AT).

EPSO's strategy is implemented by its members and staff. **EPSO staff** profiles are available [here](#). [Contact us](#) to join our activities:

- ◆ Science strategy and policy (EPSO, ISE, Plant ETP), Science Support (working groups, projects), outreach (FoPD), members, observers, association relations: **Karin Metzloff**
- ◆ Website, social media, briefings, newsletter, Fascination of Plants Day (FoPD): **Alexandra Barnoux**
- ◆ Office, accounts, projects, meetings, database, personal membership administration: **Sofia Ciravegna**

Since its creation in 2000, the organisation has become a strong advocate of plant research in Europe and an important voice articulating the contributions and needs of plant scientists at national and European levels and beyond. One of EPSO's priorities is science advice to policy.

Disclaimer

Every effort has been made to present all information accurately. However, no liability is accepted for any inclusions or advice given or for omissions from the publication.

Hyperlinks are provided as a convenience to users. EPSO is not responsible for the contents of any information provided by outside sites through these links.

As the information provided in *EPSO News* can only be a selection, EPSO is happy to receive further and updated information for distribution.

EPSO News is an online newsletter published twice a year. Access is restricted to EPSO personal members.

©EPSO material may be cited provided full reference is given.

EPSO News is written by:

Alexandra Barnoux, Publications Officer

Current EPSO News: Issue 55 – Copy deadline:
05.04.2022

Next EPSO News: Issue 56 – Publication date:
Autumn 2022

