



News item

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

36th EPSO Plant Science Seminar

Brussels, 30.9.2024

We would like to announce the thirty-sixth of our European-wide seminar series by the European Plant Science Organisation (EPSO) and aimed at the Plant Science community and its stakeholders. 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 **17th October 2024** at 15:00 (CET) we will present three talks exploring **Enhancing the use of underutilised crops**



Dr Patience Chatukuta, Max Planck Institute for Biology Tübingen, Germany

“Tackling a thorny issue: Establishing horned melon as our model crop”

Patience leads the African Plant Genomics Group at the Max Planck Institute for Biology Tübingen in Germany. She earned her Bachelor in Applied Biology and Biochemistry from the National University of S&T in Zimbabwe. She pursued her Master's and PhD study in Plant Biotechnology at the North-West University in South Africa. She joined the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa as a Postdoctoral Fellow before receiving a Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship to work at the MPI for Biology Tübingen. Her group and scientists based on the African continent use genome-centred approaches to study the diversity of under-researched subsistence crops in southern Africa, with a focus on the diversity and plant-pathogen interactions of horned melon.



Dr. Ebrahim Jahanshiri, Crops for the Future, UK

“Decision support systems for agricultural diversification”

Ebrahim is a data scientist at Crops For the Future, based in NIAB, Cambridge. He heads the knowledge group that is responsible for the development of CropBASE knowledge system. His current project is to develop / extend CropBASE for underutilised crops in Europe under the RADIANT project.



Assoc Prof Georgia Ntatsi, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

“Introducing the cultivation of underutilized vegetable crops in soilless systems: A way towards food security and sustainability”

Georgia Ntatsi is Associate Professor at the Laboratory of Vegetable Production, Department of Crop Science, Agricultural University of Athens. She is CEO of NutriSense, a AUA spin off company on fertilization practices in horticultural crops. She is specialized in vegetables, from physiology & nutrition, plant metabolism, to biofortification, (organic) production and its impact on vegetable production and quality. Georgia has been involved as researcher in five European research projects, 15 national research projects and was MC of two COST ACTION projects.

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://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlf-CopjopGNIPILfY0vExhRIPmgJXyLy2>

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 17th October 2024.

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-epsoweb/epsoweb-members/>

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

About EPSO

EPSO, the European Plant Science Organisation, is an independent academic organisation that represents around 200 research institutes, departments and universities from 31 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.