

# Webinar Agritech Spoke 1

## Young Researchers Day

Thursday 26 February 2026



**09:30 - 09:40 Institutional Opening Remarks**

### Session 1 From Genetic Diversity to Predictive Genomics

**09:40 – 09:55** *Fabrizio Olivieri (University of Tuscia)*

Seed germination under high-temperature conditions in tomato

**09:55 – 10:10** *Valentina Ricciardi (CNR-IBBR)*

Harnessing plant-associated microbiome to dissect nitrogen use efficiency mechanisms in contrasting eggplant genotypes.

**10:10 – 10:25** *Giuseppina Schiavo (University of Bologna)*

Genomics and metabolomics: applications to animal genetic resources for more sustainable livestock systems.

**10:25 – 10:40** *Marco Bonarrigo (University of Tuscia)*

Exploring genetic diversity of Sicilian tetraploid wheat conservation varieties.

**10:40 – 10:55** *Damiano Puglisi (CREA-CI)*

Leveraging data integration for genomic prediction in durum wheat.

**10:55 – 11:10** *Cassia da Silva Linge (University of Milan)*

Unlocking genetic diversity for peach fruit acidity through global GWAS and genomic prediction-based selection.

**11:10 – 11:30 Break**

### Session 2 Resilience through Multi-Omics and Biological Interactions

**11:30 – 11:45** *Salvatore Esposito (CNR-IBBR)*

Gene regulatory networks under recurrent drought.

**11:45 – 12:00** *Alessandra Francini (Institute of Crop Science, S.S. Sant'Anna)*

Omics approaches in olive and poplar to improved adaptation, production and quality traits under abiotic stresses



**12:00 – 12:15** *Daniele Alberoni (University of Bologna)*

The sunflower rhizosphere microbiota: a resource for plants and pollinators.

**12:15 – 12:30** *Luca Giovannini (CNR-IPSP)*

Assessment of arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis in the tolerance of different durum wheat genotypes under environmental stress.

**12:30 – 12:45** *Vittoria Bisutti (University of Padua)*

Omics in dairy cows welfare.

**12:30 – 12:45** **Discussions and Q/A**

**13:00 – 13:45** **Lunch break**

### **Session 3 Integrating Genomics and Biotechnology for Smart Genotypes**

**13:45 – 14:00** *Dario Paolo (CNR-IBBA)*

Development of a biotech toolbox for bean research.

**14:00 – 14:15** *Giovanni Bertoldo (University of Padua)*

A trait-ready multi-omic framework reveals site- and season-dependent phenotypic variation in wild sea beet populations.

**14:15 – 14:30** *Francesco Scariolo (University of Padua)*

Genome-scale sequencing analysis of Cichorium crops: evaluation of genetic resources for species, biotypes and varieties.

**14:30 – 14:45** *Silvana Francesca (University of Naples)*

Multi-environment assessment of tomato genotypes under heat and drought stress.

**14:45 – 15:00** *Vito Montilon (University of Bari)*

Plant tissue culture for the production of quality planting material.

**15:00 – 15:15** *Aurélien Devillars (University of Padua)*

Setting up a CRISPR–dCas9-based chromatin precipitation approach to explore protein–DNA associations at defined genomic loci.

**15:15 – 15:30** **Break**

### **Flash Talks on Innovations for Climate-Adapted Agricultural Systems**

**15:30 – 15:35** *Lorenzo Pancaldi (University of Bologna)*

Structural and functional pattern of domestication and evolution of tetraploid wheat (*Triticum turgidum* ssp.).



**15:35 – 15:40** *Antonia Esposito (CREA-AA)*

Use of microbial bioinoculums to improve tomato performance and tolerance following salt stress.

**15:40 – 15:45** *Matteo Giese (Edmund Mach Foundation)*

Future frontiers in climate-resilient agriculture: Harnessing the *Vaccinium holobiont* from roots symbiosis to phyllosphere dynamics

**15:45 – 15:50** *Nina Gauri Capra (University of Milan)*

Cyclic peptides biostimulants as a new tool for plant protection from biotic stresses

**15:50 – 15:55** *Marzia Guerriero (University of Bari)*

Integrating genomics and phenotyping for the valorization of underutilized vegetable melons

**15:55 – 16:00** *Cecilia Domenichini (University of Bologna)*

Advancements in QTL mapping for brown spot susceptibility in European pear

**16:00 – 16:05** *Arianna Bionda (University of Milan)*

From landscape to genome: understanding recent evolution and adaptation in Italian small ruminants

**16:05 – 16:30** **Plenary discussion and conclusions**