



# **European Research Alliance** Towards Chemical Pesticide-free Agriculture



- 3 preparatory workshops (Paris, Oct 2018; Berlin, May 2019; Helsinki, Oct 2019
- Signature of the MoU (Paris, Feb 2020)
- Annual General Assembly
  - Next: 22 May 2024, Zagreb









#### Today

- 37 organisations
- 21 countries

#### Achievements

- An increasing scientific community
- Contribution to a foresight study published in March 2023
- A Cost project approved (CA 21134)
- A CSA approved (Fortuna)
- A Life-PLP approved (Agrowise)



# Towards zerO Pesticide AGRIculture : European Network for sustainability (TOP-AGRI-Network)

# COST ACTION 21134

**Action Chair: Christian Huyghe (France)** 

Action Vice-Chair: Renata Bazok (Croatia)

WG1 leader: Mugur Jitea (Romania)

WG2 leader: Danilo Christen (Switzerland)/Christian Andreasen (Denmark)

WG3 leader: Dimitris Tsitsigiannis (Greece)/Sevgi Marakli (Turkey)

WG4 leaders: Riccardo Bommarco (Sweden)/Kathrin Grahmann (Germany)

WG5 leader: Silke Dachbrodt (Germany)/Federic Leoni (Italy)

Grant Awarding Coordinator: Elisabete Figueiredo (Portugal)

Starting 1<sup>rst</sup> November 2022 Now: 316 participants







Setting the scene: identifying research gaps and needs



Transformation and transition steps towards zero pesticide based value chains



Breakthroughs in biological research offering new prospects in zero pesticide agriculture



Redesigning cropping systems for zero chemical pesticide use based on functional biodiversity and agroecological principles



Community building, dissemination and communication



# WG3. Breakthroughs in research offering new prospects in zero pesticide agriculture

Let's assume that chemical pesticides are no longer an option  $\rightarrow$  We'll be more creative!

Research & innovation on agroecological methods (agronomy, breeding, biocontrol & biostimulation, automatics & digital tools, policies, etc.) can be revisited in the light of the « zero-pesticide paradigm ».

What about breeding in zero-pesticide systems and area?



## Workgroup planned activities (& deliverables)

Monthly Webinar

Annual face-to-face event

Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)

Training schools





#### Tuesday 14th May (location: Auditorium INRAE)

- **<u>8:30 9:15</u>**. Welcome of participants & introduction of the training school programme
- <u>9:15 10:00</u>. Flash talks presentation Session 1
- **<u>10:00 11:00</u>**. Introduction by Christian Huyghe (INRAE)
- <u>11:00 11:30</u>. Break
- **<u>11:30 13:00</u>**. Breeding plant holobionts: how plant microbiomes could be integrated in breeding strategies (Patrice This and <u>Corinne Vacher</u>, INRAE)



**Christian Huyghe** 



**Patrice This** 

**Corinne Vacher** 

• **<u>13:00 – 14:00</u>**. Catered lunch



#### Tuesday 14th May (location: Auditorium INRAE)

- **14:00 15:00**. "Exploiting of plant genetic resources for resource-efficient and environmentally friendly crop production" (Andreas Stahl, Julius Kuehn Institute)
- **<u>15:00-15:30.</u>** Flash talks presentation Session 1
- 15:30 16:00. Bus to Chateau Luchey-Halde
- <u>**16:00 18:30**</u>. Visit of <u>Chateau Luchey-Halde</u> and tasting (Guilherme Martins, Bordeaux Sciences Agro)
- **18:30**. Return (in Bordeaux downtown "Arts et Métiers" stop; or INRAE)
- From 20:00. Dinner in Bordeaux (optional). Meeting point at the urban ecosystem
   Darwin (87 Quai des Queyries
   Canceled : we are looking for a
   Bordeaux »]
   new place. Stay tuned !
   Det response is quite big]



**Andreas Stahl** 



**Guilherme Martins** 







Wednesday 15th May (location: Auditorium ISPA)

- **<u>8:30 8:50</u>**. Poster installation
- <u>9:00 10:00</u>. Breeding for within-field diversity to promote agroecological transition (Jérôme Enjalbert, INRAE)
- **<u>10:00 10:30</u>**. Break & Poster Session
- <u>10:30 12:30</u>. Workshop: Strategies for cultivar deployment in agricultural landscapes: confronting the points of view of breeders and farmers (<u>Marta Zaffaroni</u>, <u>Frédéric Fabre</u>, INRAE)



Jérôme Enjalbert





Frédéric Fabre

Marta Zaffaroni



Wednesday 15th May (location: Auditorium ISPA)

- <u>12:30 13:30</u>. Catered lunch
- **<u>13:30 14:30</u>**. Poster Session
- **<u>14:30 15:00</u>**. Break
- <u>15:00 17:00</u>. Workshop: Design of international R&I projects integrating the genetic lever (Thibaut Malausa, INRAE)



**Thibaut Malausa** 







#### **Organizing committee**

Frédéric Fabre



**Corinne Vacher** 





**Anne-Sophie Miclot** 

#### Local participants can also help you





Laura Marolleau

**Thibaut Malausa** 



**Christian Huyghe** 

Clara Héligon





Marie Foulogne Oriol



Marta Zaffaroni

"Locals" have a blue point on their badges.



**Pierre Gastou** 



Flash talks :

- Breeding (pear, apple, grapevine, solanum, cereal, potato, sunflower, oilseed rape) [13 talks]



Martin Maag (Germany)

<u>University/Structure</u> : Martin-Luther-University/Julius Kühn-Institute

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Breeding pear cultivars resistant to fire blight

#### Five key-words :

1- Pear breeding

- 2- Genetic resources
- 3- Fire blight
- 4- Phenotyping and genotyping
- 5- Genetic mapping



Pear accessions infected with fire blight



#### **Julie Ferreira de Carvalho**(INRAE, France) **Durable resistance of apple against multiple pathogens**



Need to rationalized use of pesticide Perennial plants Resistance genes quickly eroded

 $\Rightarrow$  Enhance apple immunity by combining complementary levers (genetic, PRI,...)

 $\Rightarrow$  Elucidating molecular mechanisms implicating in plant-pathogen interactions

#### **Objective** : Unravel genetic architecture and molecular regulations of apple resistance

Hypothesis: Durable resistance may be achieve by (i) combining complementary molecular mechanisms and metabolic pathways and by (ii) priorizing quantitative resistance with broad spectrum

Q1. Diversity and genetic architecture of specialized metabolites with a role in plant-pathogen interaction ?

Q2. Regulatory mechanisms behind quantitative resistance?

Q3. Trade-off between resistance and growth to build ideotypes ?

APPROACHES

IMPACT

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Quantitative genetics : QTL mapping and GWAS

Structural Genomics

**Population Genetics** 

**Functional analyses :** Targeted and untargeted metabolomics, Transcriptomics, Genetic mutants

Resistance QTL and metabolite QTL, Candidate genes and metabolites Progenitors and ideotypes for breeding





#### Matthias Pfeifer (Italy)

**University/structure:** Leibniz University Hannover/Julius Kühn Institute - Institute for Breeding Research on Fruit Crops

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Mapping, isolation, and characterisation of resistance to early leaf drop disease (*Diplocarpon coronariae*) in the wild apple species *Malus baccata* 

#### Five key-words:

- 1- Resistance breeding (apples)
- 2- Malus wild species
- 3- Inoculation + phenotyping
- 4- Genotyping-by-sequencing (GBS)
- 5- Whole-genome-sequencing (WGS)



Premature defoliation on apple



Leaves of 'Idared' and *Malus baccata* 'Jackii' 14 dpi



INRAC



### Buist Muçaj (Germany, Albania)

#### **University/Structure :** Julius Kühn-Institut

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Breeding apple cultivars resistant to scab and powdery mildew.



Scab infection on fruit (Muçaj 2023)



P. mildew infection on leaf (Muçaj 2023)

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Apple breeding
- 2- Genetic resources
- 3- Scab and powdery mildew resistance
- 4- Phenotyping and genotping
- 5- Genetic mapping







#### Pierre Gastou (France)



<u>University/Structure</u>: University of Bordeaux - INRAE / UMR SAVE

Monitoring a common garden experimental vineyard for seven years

Clear and consistent intervarietal gradient of esca and dieback incidences



#### Five key-words :

- 1- Phenotypic diversity
- 2- Vascular disease
- 3- Multi-trait phenotyping
- 4-Pathogenesis
- 5- Vitis vinifera







#### **Ambar Carvallo Lopez**

<u>University/Structure</u>: University of Wisconsin-Madison / INRAE-GAFL

Tomato breeding for improved yields, disease resistance, and fruit quality, adapted to organic farming systems in the Upper Midwest, US.

#### Key-words :

- 1- Participatory breeding
- 2- Septoria leaf spot resistance
- 3- Marker-assisted selection
- 4- Fruit quality
- 5- Organic farming



Figure 1. SLS1 and SLS2 markers interaction on the overall Septoria leaf spot resistance in tomato.





Lucie Tamisier (France)

**<u>University/Structure</u>** : INRAE (Avignon)

<u>**Research topic</u>**: Characterizing the genetic architecture of host-pathogen interaction to enhance resistance durability</u>

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Quantitative genetics
- 2- co-GWAS
- 3- Resistance durability
- 4- Virus
- 5- Melon



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## Szilvia Bencze (Hungary)

<u>University/Structure</u> : ÖMKi Hungarian Research Institute of Organic Agriculture

#### **Research topic:**

Participatory research and breeding (durum, emmer, einkorn - and wheat from 2024),
ancient wheat landraces (emmer and einkorn)

## Five key-words :

- 1-organic breeding
- 2- organic heterogenous materials
- 3- on-farm research
- 4- grain yield and quality
- 5- resistance to stresses and diseases

## Average hulled grain and grain yields, and grain protein content of modern and ancient wheats in the ÖMKi on-farm and small-plot trials (2019-2022)









Inès Durand (Ireland)

uropean Network



<u>University/Structure</u> : University College Dublin School of Agriculture and Food Science



**<u>Research topic</u>**: Identification of conserved immune receptors in cereals targeted by cereal leaf blight fungal pathogens.

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Plant immunity
- 2- Fungal effectors
- 3- Septoria tritici blotch
- 4- Ramularia leaf spot
- 5- Transcriptomics







#### Maria João Camacho (Portugal)

#### **University/Structure** : INIAV

<u>Research topic</u>: Identify potato protein-coding genes and protein non-coding genes involved in *Globodera* spp. infestation response (tolerance/susceptibility) and their correlation with known secreted effectors proteinsmediating plant susceptibility through the suppression of its defences and to obtain gene edited potato for its own genes and/or expressing RNA complementary to one relevant effector. At the end, I would like to get resistant commercial potato varieties while keeping their agronomic features, avoiding the use of nematicides.

#### Five key-words :

Cyst nematodes, 2- *Globodera pallida*, 3- Potato crop,
 Resistant cultivar, 5- Susceptible cultivar

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 Rod.
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Milan Jocković (Serbia)

<u>University/Structure</u> : Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops (NSSEME) / Research Institute and Breeding company – Government organization

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Sunflower breeding

#### Five key-words :

1- High seed and oil yield

- 2- Herbicide tolerance (imi, express, air)
- 3- drought tolerance, disease resistance/tolerance
- 4- Broomrape resistance
- (Orobanche cumana)
- 5- High oleic sunflower



**Currently active projects:** 





Member: Centre of Excellence - Centre of Excellence for Innovations in Breeding of Climate-

**Resilient Crops** 







#### Nemanja Ćuk (Serbia)

#### **University/Structure :** Scientific institute

**<u>Research topic</u>**: My research topic is sunflower breeding, mostly relied on disease resistance breeding.

#### Five key-words :

- 1- sunflower breeding
- 2- disease resistance
- 3- Macrophomina phaseolina
- 4- biotic stress
- 5- abiotic stress





#### Sarah Awater-Salendo (Germany)

**<u>University/Structure</u>**: Julius Kühn-Institute (JKI – Berlin)

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Evaluation of resistant intergenic hybrid lines of oilseed rape with either *Sinapis alba* or *Eruca sativa* against adult pollen beetle and its mediation by secondary plant metabolites

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Pest insects
- 2- Plant herbivore interactions
- 3- Secondary plant metabolites
- 4- Bioassays
- 5- Field studies



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Flash talks :

- Breeding (pear, apple, grapevine, solanum, cereal, potato, sunflower, oilseed rape) [13 talks]
- Plant-pathogen interactions [3 talks]



#### Ola Jassar (Israel)

<u>University/Structure</u>: The Hebrew University of Jerusalem & Volcani Institute.

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Endoplasmic reticulum (ER) associated cellular and molecular responses underlying *Liberibacter solanacearum* interactions with the carrot psyllid *Bactericera trigonica* 

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Bacterial plant pathogen
- 2- Liberibacter
- 3-Vector-pathogen interactions
- 4- ER stress
- 5-Apoptosis







#### **Alum Sheryl Dinymoi**

**University**: Université Côte d'Azur

**Internship:** Institut Sophia Agrobiotech (Plant-Nematode Interaction team)

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Characterizing the plant target of putative root knot nematode effectors





## Miguel Ángel Corrales Gutiérrez (Sweden)

**<u>University/Structure</u>**: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

**Research topic:** Plant-Pathogen Interactions through Advanced Phenotyping Techniques

#### Five key-words :

1- Plant diseases

- 2- Plant-Pathogen interactions
- 3- Neighbor Modulated Immunity (NMI)
- 4- Quantitative resistance
- 5- Image analysis



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# Flash talks :

- Breeding (pear, apple, grapevine, solanum, cereal, potato, sunflower, oilseed rape) [13 talks]
- Plant-pathogen interactions [3 talks]
- Biocontrol and biostimulation [7 talks]





### BOIU-SICUIA Oana-Alina from ROMANIA



1. University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest / Faculty of Biotechnologies



2. Research and Development Institute for Plant Protection, Bucharest

**Research topic :** Bioinoculant preparation. Isolation, selection, identification and formulation of microbial inoculants for plant protection and growth promotion.

Five key-words :

- 1- Beneficial microorganisms isolation
- 2- Polyphasic microbial characterization
- 3- Functional gene detection in microorganisms
- 4- Microscale bioinoculant production
- 5- Biologic compatibility with PPP





#### Aleksandra Stankov Petres (Serbia)

**<u>University/Structure</u>** : Institute of field and vegetable crops

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Biological control of plant pathogens.

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Pathogen
- 2- Anthagonist
- 3- Metabolites
- 4- Morecular characterization
- 5- Interactions



Different modes of antagonistic action of Trichoderma harzianum isolates



Cristiano Soares (Porto, Portugal)

University/Structure : GreenUPorto/FCUP

**<u>Research topic</u>**: Explore how pesticide contamination impacts the physiology performance of non-target plants, and development of stress-ameliorative strategies

#### Five key-words :

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- 1- plant stress tolerance
- 2- redox homeostasis
- 3-abiotic stress
- 4- pesticide contamination
- 5- biostimulants







NRAQ



between the treatments of the particular yeast strain at p < 0.05.

#### Marko Bajus (Slovakia)

**<u>University/Structure</u>** : Institute of Chemistry, Slovak Academy of Sciences

**Research topic :** The effect of biostimulants on plants exposed to environmental stress.







- 1- Drought
- 2- Biostimulants
- 3-Yeasts
- 4- Plant stress response
- 5- Maize



Figure 1: Length of roots (cm) of white mustard treated with suspensions of Figure 2: Fresh weight of roots (mg) of white mustard treated with suspensions

Candida railenensis CCY-29-175-7, Cyberlindnera saturnus CCY-38-4-9, and of Candida railenensis CCY-29-175-7, Cyberlindnera saturnus CCY-38-4-9,

Debaryomyces fabryi CCY-41-6-26 in concentrations of 10<sup>2</sup>,10<sup>3</sup>,10<sup>4</sup>,10<sup>5</sup> yeasts and Debaryomyces fabryi CCY-41-6-26 in concentrations of 10<sup>2</sup>,10<sup>3</sup>,10<sup>4</sup>,10<sup>5</sup>

per ml. Different letters denote statistically significant differences between the yeasts per ml. Different letters denote statistically significant differences



Figure 3: GPOX activity of white mustard in A: roots, B: shoots (µmol tetraguaiacol min<sup>-1</sup> mg<sup>-1</sup> proteins) treated with *Candida railenensis* (10<sup>5</sup> cells per ml). Different letters denote statistically significant differences between the treatments at p < 0.05.



Figure 4: Concentration of  $H_2O_2$  in roots and shoots of white mustard (µmol ml<sup>-1</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> fresh mass) treated with *Candida railenensis* (10<sup>5</sup> cells per ml). Different letters denote statistically significant differences between the treatments in the plant organ at p < 0.05.



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treatments of the particular yeast strain at p < 0.05.



#### Mafalda Pinto (Portugal)

<u>University/Structure</u> : Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto

<u>**Research topic</u>**: To explore the potential of eucalyptusbased products to be used in the control of weeds and crop-related bacterial diseases to reduce the application of synthetic pesticides</u>

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Eucalyptus-based products
- 2- Nanobiopesticides
- 3- Weed management
- 4- Crop-related disease management
- 5- Sustainable agriculture



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#### Alexandra Maria Georgescu (Romania)

<u>University/Structure</u>: University Of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine

**<u>Research topic</u>**: My research is based on antifungal activity of origanum plant derived essential oil on different pathogens of aromatic plants.

#### Five key-words :

1- aromatic plants (AP)

- 2- production of AP
- 3- diseases and pests
- 4- ecological culture
- 5- optimising practices







## Lavinia Diana Nicoleta Buturugă-Barbu (Romania)

#### <u>University/Structure :</u>

- University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest;
- Research and Develompment Institute for Plant Protection Bucharest.

#### Research topic:

- biotechnologies for sustainable agriculture;
- bacteria with properties of biological control agents;
- production and application of bacterial biopreparations.

## Five key-words :

- 1-Agricultural Innovation
- 2-Biotechnological Advancements
- 3-PhD Research
- 4- Sustainable Crop Protection
- 5-Plant extracts







# Flash talks :

- Breeding (pear, apple, grapevine, solanum, cereal, potato, sunflower, oilseed rape) [13 talks]
- Plant-pathogen interactions [3 talks]
- Biocontrol and biostimulation [7 talks]
- Microbiota [2 talks]



#### Kamila Bokszczanin (Poland)

University/Structure : Warsaw University of Life Sciences/Department of Pomology and Horticultural **Economics** 

Research topic: Tree Root-Associated Microbial Communities Depend on Various Floor Management Systems in an Intensive Apple (Malus × domestica Borkh.) Orchard.

#### Five key-words :

- 1- rhizosphere
- 2-microbiome
- 3- organic floor management system
- 4- soil organic matter
- 5-NGS

Inorganic or organic soil management system



Herbicide strip

Mechanical cultivation

Synthetic mulch Miscanthus mulch

Mushroom compost

INRAO



Overview of bacteria (A) and fungal (B) phyla and classes of apple rhizosphere microbiomes originated from organic and inorganic soil management systems.



Benoît Alunni (France)

**University/Structure :** INRAE, BAP, IJPB Versailles

<u>**Research topic**</u>: Exploiting the root microbiota (AMF + bacteria) to improve Maize (*Zea mays*) nutrition under low input agriculture

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Nitrogen (and P) nutrition
- 2- Maize (intercropping with Soybean K. Magne)
- 3- SynCom (Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi + Plant Growth Promoting Bacteria)
- 4- Root exudates (composition, microbiota)
- 5- Agroecology (fertilizer use reduction, improved NUE)





#### Yavuz Delen (Turkey)

**University/Structure**: Field Crops Central Research Institute, Ankara

#### **Research topic :**

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- Identification of some Yr Genes Providing Resistance to Yellow Rust Disease in Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) Population by Molecular Markers and Development of Doubled Haploid Pure Lines with Multiple Resistance Genes.
- KASP analysis for soil borne pathogens in wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.).
- Dissecting the Genetic Architecture of Morphological Traits in Sunflower (*Helianthus Annuus* L.).

#### Five key-words :

- 1- Field crops
- 2- Yellow rust
- 3- Soil borne pathogens
- 4- Molecular markers
- 5- Genome-wide association study







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Wheat

Vetch

**Previous crop** 

Faba bean

### Samia Gargouri (Tunisia)

- <u>University/Structure</u>: National Institute of Agronomic Research of Tunisia
- **<u>Research topic :</u>** Monitoring and management of soil-borne diseases in field crops

#### Five key-words :

for sustainability

- 1-Soil-borne diseases
- 2-Cereals
- 3-Fusarium
- 4-Mycotoxin
- 5-IPM



20

-2

40

Incidence (%) of F. culmorum from wheat stems

60

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80



- 19:30 20:30. Meet up for a drink at
  The Connemara Irish Pub
  18 Cours d'Albret, 33000 Bordeaux
- Bordeaux's historic city center (ok, one of them !)
- Take Tram B (possibly from Arts & Métiers) until stop « Hotel de Ville »







**20:30 – ...** Free time for dinner down town by groups (or alone, but then what about networking !!).

Many possibilities within a buffer of 5/10 min walks. Have a look to : Mama Shelter, Le Clemenceau, Bistro Régent Clemenceau, Le Café Rohan, Big Fernand, Un soir à Shibuya, Le Scopitone, Le Bistro du Musée, Les vins urbains, Les drôles, le petit commerce, Ishikawa, Elio's Ristorante…and even Burger King (!)

