



**Università
degli Studi
di Palermo**

Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie
Biologiche Chimiche e Farmaceutiche



DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE E TECNOLOGIE
BIOLOGICHE CHIMICHE E FARMACEUTICHE (STEBICEF)

Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie Industriali Biomolecolari

Avviso di seminari per giorno 18 Dicembre 2024, ore 14,30, presso l'aula Vittorelli,
Dip. STEBICEF-Università degli Studi di Palermo, Viale delle Scienze ed. 16, Palermo

Dott. Francesco Mercati, PhD

Research Scientist

National Research Council (CNR), Institute of Biosciences and BioResources (IBBR), Palermo

“Plant biotechnology and the power of biodiversity”

AND

Dott.ssa Valentina Ricciardi, PhD

Research Fellow at National Research Council (CNR), Institute of Biosciences and BioResources (IBBR), Palermo

**“Susceptibility gene silencing, the secret weapon
in the fight against plant pathogens”**

Short CV

Dr. Francesco Mercati is a Research Scientist at the Institute of Biosciences and BioResources (IBBR) of the National Research Council (CNR) of Italy (Palermo).

He received his Master's degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Pisa (2002) and his PhD in Biology Applied to Agri-Food and Forest Systems (2014) at the University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria (Italy).

He has a long-time expertise on next-generation sequencing technologies and their applications in plant genetics. Currently his research interests focus on plant biodiversity investigations and valorizations, marker assisted selection studies, investigations on plant genes associated to trait of interest mainly related to abiotic and biotic stress response and adaptation.

Scopus Profile: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=36086442100>

Dr. Valentina Ricciardi is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Biosciences and BioResources (IBBR) of the National Research Council (CNR) of Italy (Palermo).

She received both her Master's degree in Agricultural Biotechnology (2019) and her PhD in Agriculture, Environment and Bioenergy (2024) at the University of Milan.

During her studies, she dedicated her research to the identification of grapevine genetic resources involved in biotic and abiotic stress resistance, by combining Molecular Biology, Bioinformatics and *in vitro* culture techniques. Currently, her research focuses on the identification of genes involved in plant development and resistance to both biotic and abiotic stresses, to be used in breeding programs.

Scopus Profile: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=57218889974>