



Ph.D. WINTER SCHOOL

of the Italian Society of Agricultural Chemistry

The role of agricultural chemistry to reconcile soil and environmental quality with food needs

Palermo, Italy, 11 – 14 February 2019

School aims

The incoming edition of the Ph.D. Winter School organized by the Italian Society of Agricultural Chemistry will focus on the role of the agricultural chemistry in promoting a sustainable use of the natural resources by ensuring, at the same time, agricultural productions of high quality. The school aims at promoting Agricultural Chemistry among Ph.D. students in a friendly and casual environment. This initiative also aims to provide an occasion for young scientists to exchange and extend their knowledge on subjects related to the soil, plants, environment and their interactions in natural and agricultural ecosystems, including methodological approaches used. The School will include four sessions. The first session will introduce the soil-microbe-plant system as the basis of all agricultural ecosystems. The second and third sessions are mainly dedicated to soil processes, soil biochemical quality and waste water treatment; moreover, some innovative techniques for soil metal investigation will be introduced and discussed. The fourth session will be dedicated to methods for the traceability of agricultural productions.

At last, a practical section will be organized to focus on some biochemical (microbial biomass, activity and community structure) and physico-chemical (NMR, surface area and pore size analysis) methods, very useful to investigate fundamental soil properties.

School Venue

Department of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Sciences
University of Palermo
Viale delle Scienze – building 4
90128 Palermo – Italy
Website: www.unipa.it

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Monday, 11 february (afternoon)

Introduction to the School and Presentation of participants
Basic lectures on the soil-plant-microorganism system and their interactions
Welcome cocktail

Tuesday, 12 february (full day)

Lectures on soil biochemical quality and advanced techniques to investigate soil processes
Lectures on waste water treatment
Laboratory activities (Porosimetry, NMR principles, methods of extraction of phyto-compounds, biochemical methods for soil analyses)

Wednesday, 13 february (full day)

Lectures on crop biofortification
Trainees presentations
Social dinner

Thursdays, 14 february (morning)

Lectures on food traceability and metabolomics
Student feedbacks, poster awards
Closing ceremony

Registration to the School

*The deadline for registration is **31.12.2018**.*

The number of Trainees is limited to 50 participants (PhD students, post docs, scientists, technicians).

Registration fee is 70 € and includes participation to scientific sessions (lectures and practical sessions), coffee breaks, lunches and a digital copy of the book of abstracts.

Details about the payment of the registration fee will be provided by the 2nd circular.

Poster and abstract presentation

Deadline for abstract submission is **31 December 2018**. Abstract should not exceed one-word page (single spaced, times new roman 12 pt) and authors' names and affiliations should be indicated.

Each participant is asked to present a poster during the School. Posters should match the following size: (80 (w) x 100 (h) cm). Posters will be discussed (5+2 minutes) by each participant during a dedicated poster session on Tuesday afternoon. The Scientific Committee will select the three best posters to be awarded with a prize of € 100.00 each. Selection will be done according to scientific content, novelty and presentation quality and immediacy.

Abstract should be sent as word file to vitoarmando.laudicina@unipa.it.

How to reach Palermo

The Falcone e Borsellino Airport is about 35 km far from Palermo.
(<http://www.gesap.it/index.php?livello=Gesap&sezione=189&lang=en>)

To reach Palermo from the Airport and vice versa:

by Bus

Autolinee Prestia e Comandè (The bus is outside the Airport Arrivals Area – right side). Step off the bus at the Terminal Central Station (last stop). The bus timetable is:

- from the Airport first trip 05.00 - from 6.30 to 23.30 - every half hour - last trip 00:15
- from Palermo - first trip 4.00 last trip 22.30 - every half hour

One-way ticket price: € 6.30

Return ticket (at the airport): € 10.00

by Taxi sharing

The airport's taxi service is in operation from 06.00 to 24.00 and the taxi rank is to be found outside the Arrivals Area. Fares from the Airport to Palermo (Central Station) or vice versa is about € 7.00 (the taxi will leave when it is full).

Accommodation

Trainees and Trainers are invited to book themselves the room.

More information about accommodation will be provided by the 2nd circular.

Organizing committee

Vito Armando Laudicina, *University of Palermo*

Fabrizio Araniti, *University of Reggio Calabria*

Daniela Pezzolla, *University of Perugia*

Youri Pii, *Free University of Bolzano*

Daniel Said Pullicino, *University of Torino*

Laura Zanin, *University of Udine*

Scientific committee

Teodoro Massimo Miano, *University Aldo Moro of Bari*

Stefano Cesco, *Free University of Bolzano*

Roberto Pinton, *University of Udine*

Maria Rosa Abenavoli, *University of Reggio Calabria*

Maria Antonietta Rao, *University Federico II of Napoli*

Luca Espen, *University of Milano*

Giovanni Gigliotti, *University of Perugia*

Claudio Zaccone, *University of Foggia*

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Laura Zanin, *University of Verona*