*Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum*

Alessandra Francini

**November 2022**

1. **Personal information**

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| Name and Surname: Alessandra FranciniBirthdate: 3/8/1972Born in: Massa- ItalyCitizenship: ItalianSex: FemaleAddress: p.zza Martiri della Libertà, 33 56127 Pisa (Italy)Telephone: +39 050 883151Mobile: +39 348 6626967E-Mail: alessandra.francini@santannapisa.it |  |

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| **Source** | **URL** |
| Present Employer website | <http://www.santannapisa.it/it/alessandra-francini> |
| Scopus | <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=12773011400> |
| Google Scholar | <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=fDAxFz8AAAAJ> |
| Research Gate | <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Alessandra-Francini> |
| Web of Science | <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/427859> |
| ResearcherID | <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3471-1444> |

**2. Current position**

**Lab Technician** at Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna in Pisa (Econ. Pos. D1)

**3. Education**

1986-1991: **High school diploma** from the Scientific High School “Enrico Fermi”, Massa, Italy.

April 2000: **MSc degree in – Biology** from the University of Pisa, Italy (110/110, *magna cum laude*).

February 2005: **PhD - Advanced Technologies in Horticultural Sciences** Sant'Anna University - Pisa (Italy) (100/100, *magna cum laude*).

**4. Career**

**May 2019 – present *Lab Technician*** at Crop Science Research Center of Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa, Italy

**15 April 2017 - 5 May 2019 *Post Doc research grant*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. Title: Study of the dynamics of olive ripening 07/B2 - SSD AGR/03.

**15 January - 14 April 2017 *Scholarship*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy. Title: Study and development of didactic modules in plant biology and environmental pollution 07/B2 - AGR/03.

**1 September – 30 November 2016 *Scholarship*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. Title: Nutraceutical enhancement of typical Tuscan products in innovative cocoa-based foods 07/B2 - AGR/03.

**1 September 2015 – 31 August 2016 *Post Doc research grant*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. Title: Study of the nutraceutical characteristics of Tuscan fruit products 07/B2 - AGR/03.

**1 August 2014– 31 July 2015** ***Post Doc research grant*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa, Italy. Title: Study of the physiology of tree species in response to abiotic stresses 07/B2 - AGR/03.

**1 August 2013 – 31 July 2014** ***Post Doc research grant*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. Title: Study of the physiology of tree species in response to abiotic stress and realization of didactic modules for schools 07/B2 - AGR/03.

**1 August 2012 – 31 July 2013** ***Post Doc research grant*** at Institute of Life Sciences Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. Title: Study of the physiology of tree species in response to abiotic stress and realization of didactic modules for schools 07/B2 - AGR/03.

**1 October 2009 – 1 September 2012** ***Post Doc research grant*** at Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Cultivation and Protection of Woody Species “G. Scaramuzzi” University of Pisa. Title: Innovative approaches for plant pathology in the urban environment. Plant Pathology. 07/D1 - AGR/12.

**1 October 2008 – 1 April 2009** ***Scholarship*** at Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Cultivation and Protection of Woody Species “G. Scaramuzzi” University of Pisa. Title: Ozone risk assessment with plant indicators Plant Pathology. 07/D1 - AGR/12.

**1 July – 31 August 2008** ***Contract*** at Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Cultivation and Protection of Woody Species “G. Scaramuzzi” University of Pisa. Title: Ozone data processing and analysis.

**1 October 2007 – 30 June 2008** ***Scholarship*** at Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Cultivation and Protection of Woody Species “G. Scaramuzzi” University of Pisa. Title: Ozone risk assessment with plant indicators Plant Pathology. 07/D1 - AGR/12.

**1 August 2006 – 13 August 2007** ***Lab Technician*** (Econ. Pos. D1) Technical, technical-scientific and data processing area at Centro Interdipartimentale di Ricerche Agro-ambientali “Enrico Avanzi”, University of Pisa.

**16 February – 31 July 2006** ***Scholarship*** at Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Cultivation and Protection of Woody Species “G. Scaramuzzi” University of Pisa. Title: Evaluation of the ozone risk in vascular plants of ornamental interest. Plant Pathology. 07/D1 - AGR/12.

**15 January 2004 – 15 December 2005** ***Post Doc research grant*** at Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Cultivation and Protection of Woody Species “G. Scaramuzzi” University of Pisa. Title: Evaluation of the response mechanisms to oxidative stress. Plant Pathology. 07/D1 - AGR/12.

**April - December 2003** Visiting Ph.D. student University of Southampton (UK)-Dep. Cell Science Tutor Prof. William L.

**5. Honors and Awards**

* **November 2018 - November 2028 *National Scientific Habilitation* as *Associate Professor*** -07/B2 Scienze e tecnologie dei sistemi arborei e forestali.
* **November 2020 - November 2030 *National Scientific Habilitation* as *Associate Professor*** - 07/B1 Agronomia e sistemi colturali erbacei ed ortofloricoli
* Best POSTER SESSION: Moretti S, **Francini A**, Hernández ML, Martínez- Rivas JM, Sebastiani L. (2017). Effetti dell’irrigazione salina sul percorso biosintetico degli acidi grassi in mesocarpo di olive Leccino. IV Convegno Nazionale dell’Olivo e dell’Olio 18 – 20 ottobre 2017, Pisa.
* Best POSTER SESSION: **Francini A,** Romeo S, Cifelli M, Gori D, Domenici V, Sebastiani L. (2016). Dry vs fresh apple: nutraceutical related molecules of ancient cultivars from Tuscany. SOI XI Giornate Scientifiche della Società di Ortoflorofrutticoltura Italiana (SOI). 14-16 September 2016, Bolzano.

**6. Teaching activity, Webinar**

* Teaching session on “Ecologia Agraria e Sistemi colturali” della Prof.ssa Anna Spinardi, Unità didattica 2, SSD AGR/03 – Arboricoltura Generale e Coltivazioni Arboree. Lezione dal titolo “Sistemi colturali biologici” nell’ambito del corso di Laurea Triennale in Agrotecnologie per L’Ambiente e il Territorio. University of Milan 6/06/2022 (1 h).
* Seasonal School June 28th-July 2nd, 2021. The soil water and plant continuum for urban and rural wastewater phyto-treatment and contaminated site remediation (SWAP) LAB ACTIVITIES title: “Organic molecules extraction from plant tissues for UPLC/MS-MS analysis” at Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna (3 h).
* Teaching activity on “Ecologia agraria e sistemi colturali” della Prof.ssa Anna Spinardi docente dell’insegnamento di Ecologia agraria e sistemi colturali (G26-28) nell’ambito dell’unità didattica relativa all’SSD AGR/03 del corso di Laurea in Agrotecnologie per il Territorio e l’Ambiente, Seminario dal titolo: “Valutazione nutraceutica delle antiche varietà di mele”. University of Milan, 31/05/2021 (1 h).
* Webinar - PSR 2014-2020 - Misura 1.2 PIF Agro 2017 - Sostegno ad attività dimostrative e azioni di informazione -sottomisura 1.2 MIGLIOROLIO – Miglioramento della sostenibilità della filiera olivicola –olearia Toscana attraverso la produzione di olio di oliva di alta qualità e valorizzazione dei suoi sottoprodotti. Title: Monitoraggio della maturazione in olivicoltura e qualità dell'olio. Dott.ssa Alessandra Francini. 14 April 2021 (1,5 h).
* Teaching support activities.Year 2015/2016 and 2016/2017- In the course of “Biotecnologie per il miglioramento genetico e la conservazione del germoplasma vegetale” (Cod. 318GG) CdS WBO-LM Biotecnologie molecolari. University of Pisa.
* Teaching support activities.Year2016/2017 and 2015/2016 -Complementi di Biologia Vegetale, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna Pisa.
* Teaching support activities.Year 2014/2015 -Biologia della Cellula Vegetale, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna Pisa.
* Teaching support activities.Year 2012/2013 – 2013/2014 - 2014/2015- Biotecnologie per il miglioramento genetico e la conservazione del germoplasma vegetale (Cod. 287EE) CdS WTB-LM Biologia Molecolare e cellulare. University of Pisa.

**7. Research activity**

**Physiological and molecular interactions among plants and environmental constrains**

In this research area, I tried to disclose some of the biological and molecular mechanisms involved in woody plant’s reaction to abiotic stresses, moving from cell/tissue to whole crop level. At cell/tissue level I studied the molecular and biochemical change involved in the reaction to **salinity** and **drought**, **mineral nutrient stress** (Cu, Zn, Ni), **pollution effects** (**heavy metals, ozone stress**) and also **emerging xenobiotic contaminants** (caffeine, erythromycin, SDS, diclofenac, etc.). In these studies, I selected woody plant having an immediate interest for agricultural production such as olive, peach, and poplar but also horticulture crops such as tomato. In particular, I work on **olive tree** as a crop model for the Mediterranean environmental constraints (salinity, drought) from plant to orchard level. The basic idea was to understand how these crops for fruit (olive, peach, tomato) and wood (**poplar**) production resist to abiotic stresses and how we can improve by crop management or genetic improvement strategies their resistance traits.

**Fruit composition and antioxidant compounds**

In the last years I studied apple aimed to prove their health promoting effects. Pharmacological properties of fruit are linked to the abundance of phytochemical constituents (i.e. polyphenolic compounds) having antioxidant activity able to scavenge free radicals, physiologically important and that are involved in numerous pathologies. Results highlighted that apple fruit is a very important source of flavonoids, in particular of procyanidins, catechin, epicatechin, chlorogenic acid and quercetin conjugated compounds. These compounds have been largely studied in order to maximize these compounds in apple fruits or derived products.

**Atmospheric pollution.** At the start of my carrier, I focused my research activity on the study of an important environmental concern for plant growth and productivity: the ozone (O3) pollution. The global atmospheric ozone concentrations have risen by about 36% since the pre-industrial times, together with a nearly 30% increase in CO2 concentrations over the same period. Ozone is one of the most powerful oxidants and plant cells respond quickly to O3 stress by induced ROS production. By using tomato, trifolium and melissa as herbaceous plant models and poplar (*Populus* spp.) and liriodendron as woody plant models, I tested the effect of acute and chronic O3 exposures on the physiological, biochemical, and molecular plant defense and adaptation mechanisms. My studies were focused on plant signal transduction in response to O3 stress and on the interactions of these signal with other metabolites and defense mechanisms.

**Woody plant germplasm conservation.** This research line starts from the consideration that plant biodiversity recovery, conservation and valorization strategies are crucial processes for the preservation of ancient crop varieties in small and marginal agricultural areas. A detailed knowledge of plant genetic variability is crucial to correctly preserve the germplasm and eventually use it for future genetic improvement program. The many systems studied in this research area are located in hilly and mountainous regions in Tuscany (Casentino, Comune di Zeri, Capannori, Elba) that are characterized by a fast population decline and loss of several agricultural activities due to strong international competition, farmer ageing and more attractive economic activities (industry, commerce, and tourism) in the surrounding areas.

**Development of Innovative Systems for Environmental Education.** This research line has been developed in the last years under the project ACARISS (Accrescere le Conoscenze sull’Ambiente e i Rischi connessi all’Inquinamento Coinvolgendo le Scuole con la Sperimentazione - Projects Funded by PAS FAS-Tuscany) actions. Then continued with FIlo Diretto tra scuole e Università: la ricerCa In clAsse (FIDUCIA) Projects Funded by Ministero dell’Istruzione, dell’Università e della Ricerca Dipartimento per la Formazione Superiore e per la Ricerca Direzione Generale per il Coordinamento, la Promozione e la Valorizzazione della Ricerca (PANN15T3\_00469). The aims of these projects are to promote science, starting from education in secondary schools. Using Internet-based communication technologies and Inquiry Based Learning methods, the project allowed to connect the schools with the research laboratories and developed functional approaches useful for easy science learning.

**8. Third Mission**

I have performed activities to accomplish the third mission of the Sant’Anna University, which includes all the initiatives carried out to support the economic, social, and cultural development of the community.

In detail I have organized and participated to:

* *Partecipated:* BRIGHT 2022. Alessandra Francini *Talk*: Piante e inquinamento ambientale, metodi non distruttivi per il monitoraggio dello stato di salute delle piante. Stand Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna di Pisa, Piazza Martiri della Libertà, 33.
* *Organized:* Oral presentation to selected students of Liceo Scientifico Ulisse Dini Project AA.SS. 2019/2022 Erasmus+ – Azione KA229 Partenariati Strategici fra Scuole Europee Project n. 2019-1-HU01-KA229-060984 “Culture and History of Cacao”. March 2022.Title: The project Toscolata. <https://www.liceodini.it/erasmus-plus/>
* *Partecipated:* Webinar - Manifestazione conclusiva a tavola rotonda con i vari attori del progetto. Prof.ssa Laura Ercoli, Prof. Luca Sebastiani, Dott.ssa Elisa Pellegrino, Dott.ssa Alessandra Francini, Prof. Marco Nuti. Dott. Giulio Scatolini. Conferenze tematiche nell’ambito PSR 2014-2020 - Misura 1.2 PIF Agro 2017 - Sostegno ad attività dimostrative e azioni di informazione -sottomisura 1.2 Miglioramento della sostenibilità della filiera olivicola –olearia Toscana attraverso la produzione di olio di oliva di alta qualità e valorizzazione dei suoi sottoprodotti. 16 April 2021 (2 h).
* *Partecipated:* BRIGHT 2016 Stand of Research: “Toscolata” Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna – Alessandra Francini. Location Largo Ciro Menotti.
* *Partecipated:* BRIGHT 2015 Alessandra Francini *Talk:* Interazione pianta-ambiente: come si difendono le piante? Location Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna di Pisa, Piazza Martiri della Libertà, 33.
* Tutor of Mariel Serge TAMEZE from Liceo Scientifico Francesco Redi, Arezzo, at the Biolabs Institute of Life Sciences. Project title: Tree plant physiology. *CusMiBio* (Centre of the University and School of Milan for Bioscience Education), a project to improve Science Education in High Schools with the main goal to increase knowledge and interest for Science in high school students (July 2018).
* Tutor of Clara LANZETTA from Liceo Classico Galilei, Pisa, at the Biolabs Institute of Life Sciences. Project title: Tree plant physiology.*CusMiBio* (Centre of the University and School of Milan for Bioscience Education), a project to improve Science Education in High Schools with the main goal to increase knowledge and interest for science in high school students (July 2018).

**9. Editorial activity**

I am deeply involved as a member of the editorial board of international journals, as follows:

* + EDITOR in **Horticulturae** MDPI, Section EiC of Biotic and Abiotic Stress <https://www.mdpi.com/journal/horticulturae/editors>
	+ ASSOCIATE EDITOR(S) - Frontiers in Plant Science: Sections/Crop-and-product-physiology <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/plant-science/sections/crop-and-product-physiology#editorial-board>
	+ GUEST EDITOR of the research topic “Bioactive compounds biosynthesis and metabolism in fruit and vegetables” in Frontiers in Plant Science. 2018 [www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/7588/bioactive-compounds-biosynthesis-and-metabolism-in-fruit-and-vegetables](http://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/7588/bioactive-compounds-biosynthesis-and-metabolism-in-fruit-and-vegetables)
	+ GUEST EDITOR - Horticulturae Journal - Special Issue "Abiotic Stress Effects on Performance of Horticultural Crops"- 2019. [www.mdpi.com/journal/horticulturae/special\_issues/abiotic\_stress](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/horticulturae/special_issues/abiotic_stress)
	+ Editorial Board Member of Journal of Functional and Environmental Botany dal 2015. <http://indianjournals.com/ijor.aspx?target=ijor:jfeb&type=eboard>
	+ Review Editor - Frontiers in Plant Science <http://loop.frontiersin.org/people/255982/editorial>

**10. Tutoring activity**

**PhD programme in Agrobiosciences of Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna** starting to **August 2013.**

Greta Ricci XXXVIII cycle *Agrobiosciences*, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: Effects of organic and inorganic water contaminants on the morphological, physiological, biochemical and molecular response of fruit plants (*Solanum lycopersicum* and *Olea europaea*). *In progress*

Iqra Sarfraz XXXVII cycle *Agrobiosciences*, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: Poplar response to abiotoic stress Getting PON grant (DM 1061 call 2021). *In progress*

Carme Fidalgo Illesca XXXVII cycle *Agrobiosciences*, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: Metabolomic and ionomic approaches to identify relevant stress responses pathways and networks involved in tolerance mechanisms to salt stress. *In progress*

Elena Vichi XXXVI cycle *Agrobiosciences*, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: “Irrigation as possible source of micropollutants: the effects in *Solanum lycopersicum* and *Olea europaea*”. *In* progress

Vicario Giulia XXXV cycle Agrobiosciences, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: From olive fruit to olive oil: relation between olive abiotic stress response as well as agricultural practices and quality of fruit and oil. In progress

Mirko Sodini XXXIII cycle *Agrobiosciences*, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: “*Olea europaea* and salinity: understanding ions exclusion and compartmentalization”.

Silvia Traversari XXXII cycle *Agrobiosciences*, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: “Response mechanisms of secondary meristem to abiotic stresses: drought and high temperature effects on hydric relations in poplar”.

Andrea Neri XXXI cycle *Agrobiosciences* -Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Title: “Studio molecolare sugli effetti indotti da stress da Cd su *Populus alba* clone Villafranca”.

Samuele Moretti XXX cycle Agrobiosciences, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Salt and Drought Stress in Olive Tree (*Olea europaea* L.): an integrated approach. Academic Year 2016-2017.

Laura Dalle Carbonare XXX cycle *Agrobiosciences* -Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa. Thesis title: Molecular mechanisms beneath Zinc and low oxygen conditions in poplar and Arabidopsis.

**11. Role within funded Research Projects**

* Project title “Implementation of sustainability in oliviculture” Direct contract from COSTA D’ORO S.P.A. in collaboration with Crop Science Research Center Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. October 2022 - 2024. Role: Scientific Coordinator of project activity.
* Project title “Analisi UHPLC e spettrometria di massa tandem per acido ascorbico e deidroascorbico.” Direct contract from Alesco S.r.l. and Crop Science Research Center Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna December 2021 – December 2022. Role: project writing, planning and supervising research activities.
* NEXUS-NESS – Nexus nature ecosystem society solution: fair and sustainable resource allocation demonstrator of the multiple wefe NEXUS economic, social and environmental benefits for Mediterranean regions PRIMA SECTION 1 (IA) Demonstrating benefits of the Water-Ecosystem-Food Nexus approach in delivering optimal economic development, achieving high level of environmental protection and ensuring fair access to natural resources Grant Agreement No 2042. June 2021 – 2024. Role: Participation in WP2 e WP3.
* Progetto TOMATOM - Uncovering the genetic determinants of theTOMato fruit ionome by ATOMic emission spectrometry. (2022/0006220). Role: Partecipation in research activities, data analyses, and elaboration.
* VIRMA: Velivolo Intelligente Robotico per il Monitoraggio Agro-Ambientale- DM n. 737/2021 - Promozione e sviluppo delle politiche del Programma nazionale per la ricerca (PNR). Role: project writing, planning and supervising research activities.
* ACMINSAL22LE - Attività vs Reg. (CE) 1107/2009 e Direttiva 91/414/CEE – Nuove autorizzazioni, mutuo riconoscimento e rinnovo di prodotti fitosanitari a base di microorganismi, estratti di piante e sostanze naturali (linee di attività A7m, B1m, B4m, B9m, B5m, B10m, C2m, C4m, C5m). Role: member of research team.
* AMINSAL20LE - Attività vs Reg. (CE) 1107/2009 e Direttiva 91/414/CEE – Nuove autorizzazioni, mutuo riconoscimento e rinnovo di prodotti fitosanitari a base di microorganismi, estratti di piante e sostanze naturali. Role: supervising research activities.
* AGROCIRCOLIVE-Enhancement of the olive chain of Tuscany by the production of high quality olive oil land the valorization of the byproducts. Funding agency EAFRD 2014-2020. Year 2018. Role: project writing, planning and supervising research activities.
* ASIOLBI-SI 2016-2018 (Applicazione di nuove Strategie e tecniche Innovative in OLivicoltura BIologica in Provincia di Siena). Progetto sottomisura 16.2 PSR 2014-2020 della Regione Toscana. “Un filo d’oro” Valorizzazione dell'Olio Extra Vergine di Oliva di qualità certificata DOP Terre di Siena e IGP Toscano in Provincia di Siena. Role: project writing, planning and supervising research activities.
* FiDUciA 2017 (Filo Diretto tra scuole e Università: la ricerca in clAsse). Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna - GREAT Robotics s.r.l.s. Bando- Soggetti diversi da Istituzioni Scolastiche (Legge 113/91) D.D. 1524/2015 -Titolo 3 - PANN15T3\_00469. Finanziato dal MIUR - Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell’Università e della Ricerca. Role: project writing, planning and supervising research activities.
* TOSCOLATA 2014-2015 (Valorizzazione nutraceutica di prodotti tipici toscani in alimenti innovativi a base di cacao). 24 months. Finanziamento: Regione Toscana. Role: project writing, planning and supervising research activities.

**12. Conference organization**

* Member of the Scientific Committee CONVEGNO NAZIONALE POSTRACCOLTA Pescia (PT) il 3-4 novembre 2022, organizzato dal CREA – [OF](https://www.crea.gov.it/web/orticoltura-e-florovivaismo).
* Member of the Committee organizing the National Congress I Convegno Nazionale Orticoltura e Floricoltura Pisa (PI) il 14-16 giugno 2022.
* Member of the Scientific Committee CONVEGNO NAZIONALE POSTRACCOLTA Milano (MI) il 28-29 ottobre 2019, organizzato dall’Università degli Studi di Milano.
* Member of the Committee organizing the National Congress IV Convegno Nazionale dell’Olivo e dell’Olio 18 – 20 ottobre 2017 Pisa.

**13. Referee appointments**

**Peer-review activities for scientific journals**

I have carried out revision activities for several international journals, as follows:

• Australian Journal of Crop Science

• Food Chemistry

• Food Control

• Frontiers in Plant Science

• Horticultural Science

• Industrial Crops and Products

• International Journal of Genomics

• International Journal of Agriculture Sciences

• Journal of American Society of Horticultural Science

• Physiologia Plantarum

• Plant Growth Regulation

• South Africa Journal of Botany.

**Peer-review activities for research projects**

I have carried out evaluation activities on research projects for Israel Research Government:

* 2021\_The United States – Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund. **BARD Proposal** IS-5430-21 “Tree-based multilevel spatial decision support systems to close the yield gap in almond orchards”.
* 2020\_The United States – Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund. **BARD Proposal** IS-5288-20 “Incorporation winter tree physiology into forecast-models of orchards bloom and yield”.

**14. Active international collaboration**

* José M. Martínez-Rivas Instituto de la Grasa (CSIC), Campus Universitario Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla, Spain, Department: Bioquimica y Biologia Molecular de Productos Vegetales. I have developed a collaboration for studying the effect of Na uptake on olive quality (1 paper in Plant Physiology and Biochemistry).
* Prof. Nafees Khan, D.Sc., FISPP, FIBS, Professor of Plant Physiology, Department of Botany, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 202002, India. I have developed a collaboration for studying the ethylene role in plants (2 paper in Frontiers in Plant Science, 1 Book chapter In: Ethylene Action in Plants. (ed. by N.A. Khan) Springer-Verlag Berlin).
* Prof. Domenico Morabito, Laboratoire de Biologie des Ligneux et des Grandes Cultures (LBLGC), Université d’Orléans, UPRES EA 1207 INRA USC 1328, BP 6759, 45067 Orléans, France. I have developed a collaboration for studying the effect of Zn on physiological parameters in *Populus alba* L. (1 paper in Journal of Soils and Sediments).
* Andrej Pilipovic, Ph.D. Senior Research Fellow at Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment of University of Novi Sad -Antona Cehova Novi Sad, Serbia. I collaborated for the proposal submission of H2020-JTI-BBI-2019, Bilateral project Italia-Serbia funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
* Enrique Fernández Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología de Sevilla (IRNAS) Av. Reina Mercedes, 10. E-41012 SEVILLA. I collaborated for the proposal submission of PRIMA RIA & IA Pre-proposal Template - PART II.

**15. Current Membership**

Italian Society of Horticultural Science (<http://www.soihs.it>) since 2013.

**16. Track record and details**

I have authored **79** national and international scientific papers, book chapters and editorships. The list is reported below. In the Scopus database the total number of my publications from 2004 is **69** (at November, 18th 2022), the citation number is **1620**, the *h*-index is **20**, and the number of co-authorsis **110**.

**17. List of publications (\*Corresponding Author)**

***Scientific Publications indexed in SCOPUS/WoS Core Collection***

1. **Francini A**, Romano D; Toscano S; Ferrante A. 2022. The Contribution of Ornamental Plants to Urban Ecosystem Services. ***Earth*,** 3(4):1258-1274. https://doi.org/10.3390/earth3040071
2. **Francini A**, Fidalgo Illesca C, Raffaelli A, Romi M, Cantini C, Sebastiani L. 2022. Cocoa bar antioxidant profile enrichment with underutilized apples varieties. ***Antioxidants,*** 11(4):694. https://doi.org/10.3390/antiox11040694
3. Sodini M, Astolfi S, **Francini A\***, Sebastiani L. 2022. Multiple linear regression and linear mixed models identify novel traits of salinity tolerance in *Olea europaea* L. ***Tree Physiology,*** 42 (5)1029–1042. https://[doi.org/10.1093/treephys/tpab158](https://doi.org/10.1093/treephys/tpab158)
4. **Francini A\***, Fidalgo-Illesca C, Raffaelli A, Sebastiani L. 2022. Phenolics and Mineral Elements Composition in Underutilized Apple Varieties. ***Horticulturae,*** 8(1), 40; https://doi.org/10.3390/horticulturae8010040
5. **Francini A**, Sodini M, Vicario G, Raffaelli A, Gucci R, Caruso G, Sebastiani L. 2021. Cations and phenolic compounds concentrations in fruits of fig plants exposed to moderate levels of salinity. ***Antioxidants,*** 10(12): 1865. https://doi.org/10.3390/antiox10121865
6. **Francini A**, Toscano S, Romano D, Ferrini F, Ferrante A. 2021. Biological Contribution of Ornamental Plants for Improving Slope Stability along Urban and Suburban Areas ***Horticulturae***, 7, 310. https://doi.org/10.3390/horticulturae7090310
7. Vannucchi F, **Francini A\***, Raffaelli A, Sebastiani L. 2021. Removal of multi-contaminants from water by association of poplar and brassica plants in a short-term growth chamber experiment. ***Environmental Science and Pollution Research Int.,*** 28(13):16323-16333. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-11804-x
8. Neri A, Traversari S, Andreucci A, **Francini A\***, Sebastiani L. 2021. The Role of Aquaporin Overexpression in the modulation of transcription of heavy metal transporters under cadmium treatment in poplar. ***Plants (Basel)***. Dec 29;10(1):54. https://doi: 10.3390/plants10010054
9. Caselli A, **Francini A**, Minnocci A, Petacchi R. 2021. *Dasineura oleae*: morphological and physiological characterization following the midge attack on olive leaves. ***Journal of Plant Disease and Protection***, 128, 173–182 https://doi.org/10.1007/s41348-020-00380-4
10. Vicario G, **Francini A\***, Cifelli M, Domenici V, Sebastiani L. 2020. Near UV-Vis and NMR Spectroscopic Methods for Rapid Screening of Antioxidant Molecules in Extra-Virgin Olive Oil. ***Antioxidants,*** 9: 12, https://doi.org/124510.3390/antiox9121245
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***Science communication***

I have been active in public communication of science-related topics to non-experts. I edited texts specifically aimed at communicating science results to the public:

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