


Agenda SCIENCE-POLICY SYMPOSIUM

 **6 October 2023**
9:00-14:00 EEST

 Municipal Cultural Centre Panos Solomonides
LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

The Symposium will be held under the auspices of
Cyprus' Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment.



TIME	AGENDA	
08:30	Participant Registration	
Setting the Scene		
09:00	Opening of the Symposium Welcome Note What may be the impact of NGT's research for Cyprus. NGTs plants and microalgae and the significance of the GeneBEcon Project for Europe	Xenia Theodotou Schneider Owner and Principal Consultant, XPRO Consulting Limited, Cyprus. Symposium Chair. Panayiotis Zaphiris Prof. Rector Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus Andreas Katsiotis Prof. Dean of Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences and Environmental Management, Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus Dennis Eriksson Assoc. Prof. Department of Plant Breeding, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and Coordinator of the GeneBEcon EU project, Sweden
09:20	Keynote speech: Cyprus's agricultural challenges due to climate change and NGTs expectations.	Petros Xenofontos Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Cyprus
09:40	Legislation for plants produced by certain new genomic techniques – perspectives from the European Parliament	Jessica Polfjärd (online) Member of the European Parliament, Sweden. Member of the Committee for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, rapporteur for New Genomic Techniques for the European Parliament.
09:55	The Commission proposal on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques	Alexandre Huchelmann (online) Policy Officer, Unit E3 Biotechnology, European Commission, DG Health, and Food Safety
10:10	NGTs, challenges and opportunities for the breeding sector	Andreas Pallides Agricultural Research Officer A', Genetics, Breeding and Biotechnology Plant improvement Section, Agricultural Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Cyprus
10:25	Panel Discussion • Jessica Polfjärd • Andreas Pallides • Petros Xenofontos	Petra Jorasch Manager Plant Breeding and Innovation Advocacy, Euroseeds, Belgium
11:00	Break	
Showcasing GeneBEcon Project and CUT bioeconomy activities		
11:30	Virus-resistant potato with higher quality starch for more sustainable food processing	Mariette Andersson CEO of SolEdits and Assoc. Prof. Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences Sweden
11:40	Unlocking the potential of microalgae for human, animal and ocean health	Johan Robbens Leader Unit Blue Biotech and Food Integrity, Flanders Research Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries and Food, Belgium Evelyne Delezie Research Group Leader of small livestock husbandry, Animal Sciences Unit, Flanders Research Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries and Food, Belgium
11:50	Harnessing the potential of microalgae for circular (bio)economy applications	Michalis Koutinas Assoc. Prof. Department Chair, Dept of Chemical Engineering, Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus
NGTs Regulatory and Socio-Economic significance		
12:00	What are the socio-economic impacts of NGT plants on agricultural production?	Justus Wesseler Prof. and Chair Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy Group, Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands
12:10	EU and the Regulatory Developments and Considerations – What does it mean for Europe and Cyprus?	Kai Purnhagen Prof. Faculty of Life Sciences and the Law Faculty and Director of the Institute for German and European Food Law, University of Bayreuth, Germany
12:20	Panel Discussion • Evelyne Delezie • Michalis Koutinas • Kai Purnhagen • Justus Wesseler • Jean-Eric Chauvin	Dennis Eriksson Assoc. Prof. Department of Plant Breeding, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and Coordinator of the GeneBEcon EU project, Sweden. Panel Chair
12:55	Conclusions and Closing	Xenia Theodotou Schneider Owner and Principal Consultant, XPRO Consulting Limited, and Project Manager of the GeneBEcon EU project, Cyprus
13:00 14:00	Networking lunch and refreshments	



Xenia Schneider

Owner and principal consultant of XPRO Consulting Limited, Cyprus

Field of work: Innovation and business strategy in biopharmaceutical and bioeconomy, Responsible Research and Innovation.



Prof. Andreas Katsiotis

Dean of Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences and Environmental Management, Cyprus University of Technology

Field of Work: Genetic Resources and Novel Plant Breeding Techniques.



Dennis Eriksson

Associate Professor at the Department of Plant Breeding, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Coordinator of the GeneBEcon EU project

Field of Work: Plant Molecular Biology and Gene Editing, Regulatory Framework for genetic resources and plant breeding.



Petros Xenofontos

Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Cyprus

Field of Work: Promoting sustainable development for agriculture and fishing, while contributing to environmental protection and sustainable management of both the environment and Cyprus natural resources.



Jessica Polfjärd

Member of the European Parliament from Sweden for the European People's Party (EPP)

Field of Work: Member of the committee for environment, public health and food safety and the deputy coordinator its EPP-group, and the rapporteur for the proposal on New Genomic Techniques for the European parliament.



Alexandre Huchelmann

Policy Officer, Unit E3 Biotechnology, European Commission, DG Health, and Food Safety

Field of Work: Researcher in plant biology in Sweden and in Belgium. In 2018, in European Commission as Policy officer in the area of GMO and NGTs.



Andreas Pallides

Agricultural Research Officer A', Genetics, Breeding and Biotechnology Plant improvement Section, Agricultural Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Cyprus

Field of Work: Seventeen years working experience in the field of genetics and plant breeding and is responsible for the National Breeding Program of Wheat, Triticale and Legumes. He is the National Delegate of Cyprus at the European Committee Working Party for the New Genomic Techniques legislation.



Petra Jorasch

Manager Plant Breeding and Innovation Advocacy, Euroseeds, Belgium

Field of work: She is an internationally recognized science, communication and industry advocacy expert with more than 20 years of experience in and a deep knowledge of the relevant policy frameworks for seeds, plant science and breeding, access and use of plant genetic resources as well as relevant intellectual property protection systems.



Mariette Andersson

CEO of SolEdits, Sweden; Associate professor at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden.

Field of Work: Crop Breeding and Quality through Gene Editing, specialising on starch quality in potato.



Johan Robbens

Executive Manager of Plants for the Future ETP (Plant ETP), Belgium.

Field of work: Valorisation of Marine resources for short to the market applications in agriculture, industry and food.



Michalis Koutinas | Speaker

Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering of Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus

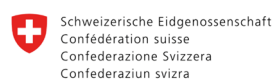
Field of Work: Biomass Bioconversion into added-value non persistent bio-chemicals, biofuels and biomaterials



Evelyne Delezie | Speaker

Senior Researcher; President of World's Poultry Science Association (WPSA) chapter in Belgium and member of WPSA.

Field of Work: poultry health, nutrient requirements, relationship between nutrition and climate (emissions and excretions), product quality



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