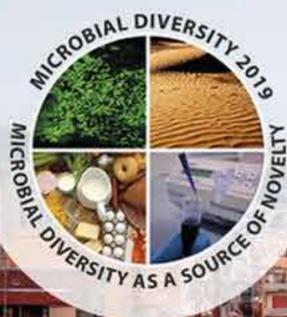


5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MICROBIAL DIVERSITY 2019

Catania, Italy
September 25-27, 2019



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the Italian Society of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Microbiology (SIMTREA), it is our pleasure to announce the 5th International Conference on Microbial Diversity 2019, that will take place in Sicily from 25th to 27th September 2019, at the prestigious seat of the Monastero dei Benedettini, Catania.

The Conference is organized by University of Catania, University of Palermo, in collaboration with the Consiglio per la Ricerca in Agricoltura e l'Analisi dell'Economia Agraria (CREA), the Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS), the International Commission on Food Microbiology and Hygiene (ICFMH), and the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA).

The MD is a prestigious international congress that has seen the number of participants grow over the years and the previous MD editions saw a multidisciplinary audience and included microbiologist working in the area of agriculture, food, environment, health industry members, researchers and basic scientists who came together from 36 countries to make for an exciting forum.

The theme of 5th Edition of MD is "Microbial diversity as a source of novelty: function, adaptation and exploitation" and includes the six sessions: From Omics to Culturomics; Exploitation of microbial diversity in ecological system; Mechanisms of microbial resistance; Microbiota and host; Microbiome adaptation and functioning; Association and interaction in natural ecosystem.

The meeting will take place in Sicily, in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea, at the foot of Mount Etna, the biggest volcano in Europe and one of the most active in the world. The striking location, recognized as one of the major reservoirs of biodiversity, will be a perfect frame for the fascinating topic of the microbial diversity and will attract a broad European, International and Mediterranean participation.

So, we look forward to seeing you and your colleagues in Catania.

Luca Cocolin and Cinzia Caggia

General Chair and Local Chair of MD2019 Organizing Committee

Confirmed plenary speakers

George - John Nychas (Agricultural University of Athens)
Christian Voolstra (KAUST University, Thuwal, Saudi Arabia)

Confirmed invited speakers:

Rodolphe Barrangou (Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences, North Carolina State University, USA); **Patrice D. Cani** (Belgian Fund for Scientific Research - Louvain Drug Research Institute (LDRI), Université catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium); **Patrick Lucas** (Institut des Sciences de la Vigne et du Vin, University of Bordeaux, France); **Fernanda Beatriz Mozzi** (National Council of Scientific and Technological Research, Argentina); **Robert W. Jackson** (School of Biological Sciences, University of Reading, UK); **Marie-Agnès Petit** (Micalis Institute, INRA, France); **Reetta Satokari** (Faculty of Medicine, University of Helsinki, Finland)

Scientific Committee:

General Chair: Luca Cocolin, President of SIMTREA, Italy; **Local Chairs:** Cinzia Caggia, University of Catania, Italy; Settanni Luca, University of Palermo, Italy; **Program Chair:** Marco Gobetti, University of Bolzano, Italy; **Finance Chair:** Giovanna Felis, University of Verona, Italy; **Publicity Chair:** Sergio Casella, University of Padova, Italy.

Program Committee:

Rodolphe Barrangou, North Carolina State University, USA; **Gianluigi Cardinali**, University of Perugia, Italy; **Stephane Chaillou**, INRA, France; **Daniele Daffonchio**, King Abdullah University, Kaust, Saudi Arabia; **Marion Leclerc**, INRA, France; **Kim Millferstedt**, INRA, France; **Fabio Minervini**, University of Bari, Italy; **Erasmus Neviani**, University of Parma, Italy; **Cinzia Lucia Randazzo**, University of Catania, Italy; **Flora Valeria Romeo**, CREA, Italy.

Local Organizing Committee:

Antonio Alfonzo, University of Palermo, Italy; **Cinzia Caggia**, University of Catania, Italy; **Luca Cocolin**, University of Torino, Italy; **Daniele Daffonchio**, King Abdullah University, Kaust, Saudi Arabia; **Nicola Francesca**, University of Palermo, Italy; **Raimondo Gaglio**, University of Palermo, Italy; **Rosa Guarcello**, University of Palermo, Italy; **Erasmus Neviani**, University of Parma, Italy; **Alessandra Pino**, University of Catania, Italy; **Cinzia Lucia Randazzo**, University of Catania, Italy; **Cristina Restuccia**, University of Catania, Italy; **Nunziatina Russo**, University of Catania, Italy; **Luca Settanni**, University of Palermo, Italy; **Maria Concetta Strano**, CREA, Italy; **Amanda Vaccalluzzo**, University of Catania, Italy

E-mail addresses

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Home Page of the Conference
www.md2019.it

Proceedings: We plan to publish invited talks and selected contributions in congress proceedings.

Registration fee: The registration fee is fixed to: 180 Euros for PhD Students and Students; 270 Euros for SIMTREA members and 320 Euros for NON-SIMTREA members and includes the access to all Congress Sessions and Poster Area, opening and closing ceremonies, conference materials including congress proceedings.