

Paola Battilani

Full professor in Plant Pathology (from September 2018), Department of Sustainable Crop Production (DIPROVES), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. Associate professor in Plant Pathology (November 2001-August 2018), Researcher in plant Pathology (November 1989-October 2001), UCSC.

Teaching activities started in 1995 and she is now teaching in national and international Degrees, topics related to Plant Pathology, Plant Health and Mycotoxins. She supervised more than 40 Master thesis and 12 PhD thesis.

The main research topics regard:

- Ecophysiology and host interaction of fungi producing mycotoxins in agricultural crops (Fumonisin, aflatoxins and deoxynivalenol in maize, deoxynivalenol in wheat, aflatoxins in nuts, ochratoxin in grapes);
- Fungi responsible for mycotoxin contamination in products of animal origin (cured meats and cheeses); molecular identification and characterisation;
- Methods of preventing mycotoxin contamination, including biocontrol;
- Identification of causal agents and prevention of defective hazelnuts;
- Dry rot of garlic, causal agent and preventive actions;
- Models for the prediction of mycotoxin contamination risk in crops and stored/ripened food products and related Decision Support System development.

Her research projects are supported by grants from several regional, national, and European agencies. She was commonly involved as Unit leader or project coordinator. She is founding member of International Society of Mycotoxicology, member of the Italian Society of Plant Pathology.

She is Editor of the Topical Collection “Understanding Mycotoxin Occurrence in Food and Feed Chains” in *Toxins* (<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/toxins/sections>) and Section Editor in *World Mycotoxin Journal*. She also worked as guest Editors in some special Issues of peer reviewed Journals.

She was recently included in the top 2% world researchers. Stanford University database (Ioannidis et al., *PLoS Biology* 2020 10.1371 / journal.pbio.3000918).

Bibliometric parameters in Scopus (04/2022) Publications 148; total Citations 5007; H-Index 37. ORCID 0000-0003-1287-1711.

NON-TOXIGENIC STRAIN OF *ASPERGILLUS FLAVUS* - European Patent EP3003050