



ZAGREB

7 – 9 September 2026



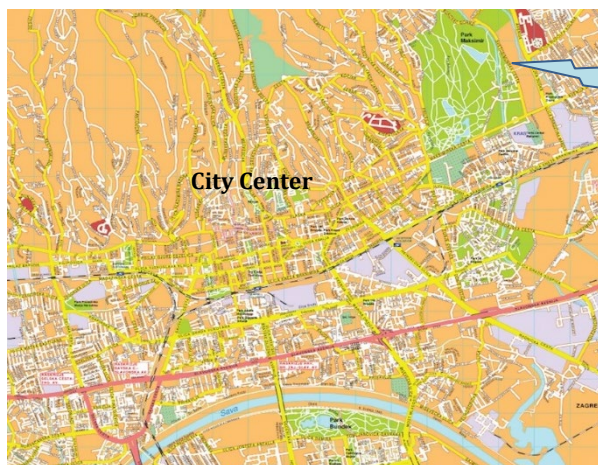
The Venue – University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Chemistry



Svetošimunska cesta 25, 10000 Zagreb



Pavillon 3, 1st floor – hall 3A



The faculty is located in the eastern part of Zagreb, near **Maksimir Park** easily accessible by tram (Ravnice station) and bus.



More info on Zagreb, directions, hotel, etc:

<https://e-niche.eu/news/annual-e-niche-meeting-zagreb-croatia/>

ORGANISATION



Management Committee 7th morning



2026 Annual meeting participants

Local organizers

Marko **Vinceković** (University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture)

Luna **Maslov Bandić** (University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture)

Marin **Roje** (Rudjer Boskovic Institute)

Local meeting's Assistants:

Dora **Bošnjak**

Danijel **Čičak**

Non local

Fanny **Rulhand** (Video)

Core Group:

Conxita	Avila
Anne-Geneviève	Bagnères-Urbany
Eduardo N.	Barata
Sylvie	Baudino
Laura	Bellec
Aurelie	Cartereau
Levent	Cavas
Stefano	Colazza
David	Giron
Júlia Katalin	Jósvai (absent)
Julie	Maguire
Maria	Pappas
Soizic	Prado
Christelle	Robert
Giovanna	Romano (absent)
François	Verheggen (absent)

DETAILED PROGRAM

	Monday 07 September			Tuesday 08 September			Wednesday 09 September
8h45	Arrivals MC &CG members		8h45	Arrivals Participants		8h45	Arrivals Participants
9h00	Management Committee (MC) Part 1		9h00	YRI special session 4 Talks (10+5min each) and 5 Poster presentations (5min each)		9h00	SME-Applied- Regulations special session 5 Talks (10+5min each)
10h30	Coffee Break		10h25	Coffee Break		10h15	Coffee Break
11h00	Management Committee Part 2		11h00	YRI special session 4 Talks (10+5min each) and 6 Poster presentations (5min each)		10h45	SME-Applied- Regulations special session 4 Talks (10+5min each)
						11h45	WGs’ time
12h30	Lunch break MC members		12h30	Lunch break		12h30	Lunch break
13h30	Arrivals Participants		14h00	Poster session & Coffee time		14h00	5 talks (10+5min each)
14h00	Opening - Core Group presentations					15h15	Coffee break
15h30	5 talks (10+5min each)					15h45	4 talks (10+5min each)
16h45	Coffee break		16h30	4 Talks (10+5min each)		16h45	Discussions Closing of our journeys (30min max)
17h15	5 talks (10+5min each)		17h30	Workshop: E-NICHE beyond COST			
18h30	End of the day. Free evening						
19h30	City Tour (for registered)				18h45		

YRI: Young Researchers and Innovator; SME: Small & Medium Enterprise; CG: Core Group

Monday 7 September

09h00 - 10h30 **Management Committee – Core Group Meeting: with presentation from the CG (WG leaders, representatives, GH manager) (41 people)**

10h30 - 11h00 **Coffee Break**

11h00 - 12h30 **Management Committee – Core Group Meeting (continued)**

12h30 - 13h30 **Lunch break (only MC & CG – 41p)**

13h30 - 14h00 **Welcome to participants – Badge distribution**

14h00 - 15h30 **Core Group presentation**

15h30 - 16h45 **Talks (10min + 5min questions)**

Plant–Insect Interactions

- Combining computer vision, genetics and metabolomics to identify specialized metabolites involved in pea aphid resistance in wild peas (**M. Galland**)
- Species-specific metabolic responses of *Aesculus* species to *Cameraria ohridella* infestation (**S. Sytnyk**)
- **Plant nutritional ecology of turfgrass: effects of potassium availability on the development of *Spodoptera frugiperda* (S. Attia) absent**
- **Individual** & interactive effects of drought-memory, herbivory, and development stage on oak phytochemistry (**M. Bakhtiari**)
- Cultivar-specific effects of the rhizosphere fungus *Trichoderma* on thrips resistance in *Chrysanthemum* (**M. Macel**)

16h45 – 17h15 **Coffee break**

17h15 – 18h30 **Talks (10min + 5min questions)**

Plant Metabolism, Adaptation and Chemical Diversity

- Plant invasion and global change reshape soil-microbiome interactions through soil legacy and exudate-driven responses (**K. Yanuka-Golub**)
- Selenium-mediated regulation of plant stress metabolism under uv-b radiation: physiological and transcriptomic insights (**A. Akpinar**)
- “GABA” a universal regulator (**M. Bor**)
- The ecological life cycle of plant specialized metabolites: following benzoxazinoids across biological scales (**Ch. Robert**)
- When the same is different (**P. Tóth**)

18h30 **Free Evening**

19h30 **City Tour (for voluntaries registered)**

Tuesday 8 September

YOUNG RESEARCHERS & INNOVATORS (YRIs) SESSION

Organizer: Laura Bellec (YRI representative)

09h00 – 09h05 Introduction

09h05 – 10h 30 *Session 1 – Plant Metabolism & Natural Products*

Oral Presentations (10min + 5min questions)

- Large-scale metabolomics of understudied plant lineages for natural product discovery (**K. Kučerová**)
- Mass Spectral Library Network (MERLIN): generation of public spectral libraries and community-driven expansion (**F. Brigante**)
- Functional characterization of monoterpene and sesquiterpene synthases from *Lavandula* species (**N. Yadav**)
- Sustainable synthesis and biological potential of natural product-inspired heterocycles (**H. Khachatryan**)

Flash Poster Presentations (5min)

- Does autotoxicity avoidance shape organ-specific chemodiversity? (**J. Bourenane-Vieira**)
- Identification and functional analysis of terpene synthases from *Lavandula* species (**N. Yadav**)
- Pyrazole-modified chitosan schiff bases as bio-based functional materials for water treatment applications (**H. Khachatryan**)
- **Effects of artificial night light colour on phytochemistry and its implications for plant–insect interactions (**C. Zamboni**) Cancelled**
- Enhanced anammox biofilm-mediated nitrogen and pharmaceuticals removal under anoxic conditions (**F. A. Mamun**)
- Volatile cues, rather than virulence alone, determine belowground entomopathogenic fungi efficacy against wireworms (**F. Ruhland**)

10h30 – 11h00 Coffee break

11h00 – 12h30 *Session 2 – Ecological Interactions*

Oral Presentations (10min + 5min questions)

- Time heals all wounds: spatiotemporal patterns in plant–herbivore interactions (**M. Sanches**)
- Biofouling community changes observed in long-term antifouling coating field tests (**İ. Kirkiz**)

- Semiochemical regulation of *Tenebrio molitor* behaviour: effects of plant and fungal volatiles (**G. Bumbulytė-Žukevičienė**)
- Intercropping with aromatic plants in olive groves for masking host volatiles and managing olive fruit fly (*Bactrocera oleae*) (**M. H. Balci**)

Flash Poster Presentations (5min)

- Native strains of fungi as dual control agents against pests (**A. Moldovan**)
- Efficacy of myrrh essential oil as a grain protectant against major insect and mite pests (**V.P. Kyrpislidi**)
- Plant–herbivore interactions are more dynamic than we measure (**M. Sanches**)
- Accumulation of selected metal(loid)s in three freshwater organisms occupying different trophic levels (**Z. Kiralji**)
- 12:20 – 12:25 Metal accumulation and biomarker responses in digestive glands of farmed and wild *Mytilus galloprovincialis* (**T. Mijošek Pavin**)
- 12:25 – 12:30 DoE-optimized fish oil nanostructured lipid carriers for enhanced oral carvedilol delivery in myocardial infarction (**M. Roncaglia dos Santos**)

12h30 - 13h30 Lunch break

13h30 – 16h30 Poster session & coffee time

16h30 - 17h30 Talks (10min + 5min questions)

Marine & Microbial Chemical Ecology

- Antarctic marine natural products under the heat (**C. Avila**)
- Exploring the roles of a vanadium bromoperoxidase in a brown alga using knock-out mutants and omics analyses (**C. Leblanc**)
- Diatom-bacteria communication under realistic microscale conditions – a chemical theoretical view (**Ch. Roggatz**)
- The importance of microbial chemical ecology (**P. Garbeva**)

17h30 – 18h45 Workshop: E-NICHE beyond COST

- E-NICHE Sustainability Plan, covering research collaborations, the building of the European Association of Chemical Ecology, and other relevant aspects (**Maria Pappas & Christelle Robert**)

20h00 Restaurant in the city (voluntary joint dinner with previous registration (survey closed))

Wednesday 9th September

SME-APPLIED-REGULATION SESSION

Organizer Julia Maguire (SME representative)

9h00 -10h15 Session 1 - Talks (10min + 5min questions)

- Olfactory-based management of *Frankliniella occidentalis* using essential oils and volatile compounds (**E. Leppik**)
- Evaluating the trap efficiency of two pheromone compounds of male bean flower Thrips in the field in Kenya (**F. Drijfhout**)
- Evaluation of the efficacy of plant-based insecticides against stored-product pests: insights into biochemical modes of action (**M.C. Boukouvala**)
- Host plant preference of mosquitoes (**R. Ignell**)
- Repelling fruit flies with essential oils and their components: the peach fruit fly *Bactrocera zonata* (**A. Levi-Zada**)

10h15 - 10h45 Coffee Break

10h45 -11h45 Session 2 - Talks (10min + 5min questions)

- Synthesis and application of autoinducer-2 sugar derived prodrugs (**R. Ventura**) **Cancelled**
- Encapsulation of the plant growth-promoting rhizobacterium *Pseudomonas brassicacearum* in biopolymer composite microparticles (**M. Vincekovic**)
- Advancing chemical risk assessment in Europe: integrating science, policy, and biodiversity protection (**C. Jousse**)
- A sea of rules: unlocking Europe's seaweed potential (**J. Maguire**)

11h45 – 12h30 WGs' time

12h30 – 14h00 Lunch Break

14h-15h15 General talks

Session 1 - Insect Chemical Ecology

- Senseapest: towards a portable analytical tool for efficient and non-invasive detection of plant pests (**A. Ficke**)
- Accelerating ligand discovery for insect odorant receptors by in silico approaches (**E. Jacquín-Joly**)
- Behavioral responses of *Halyomorpha halys* to phenology-specific volatile blends (**S. Andreadis**)
- Male-specific lactone enhances attraction of both sexes of *Bactrocera oleae* to ammonium bicarbonate (**C. Quero**)
- What dictates diversity in chemical defences of ithomiini butterflies? (**M. McClure**)

15h15 - 15h45 Coffee Break

15h45-16h45 General talks

Session 2 - Chemical Communication in Different Biological Systems

- Communicating in the dark: chemical signals in subterranean reptiles (**P. López**)
- Chemical language in mammalian signalling (**P. Stopka**)
- Interactions between bacterial symbionts of entomopathogenic nematode and tomato plants (**K. Karamanoli**)
- Effects of ozone pollution on plant-pollinator chemical communication under climate change: the case of the mediterranean fig tree and its specialized pollinator (**M. Proffit**)

16h45-17h15 Last discussion & Closing of our journeys

Poster numbers page 11

(Poster size: 50x70cm portrait)

Contact of participants page 13-15

Poster session

Last Name	First Name	YRIs	Poster number
Anastasaki	Eirini	n	1
Bourenane-Vieira	Jade	y	2
Dragun	Zrinka	n	3
Drijfhout	Falko	n	4
Eisenring	Michael	n	5 cancelled
Ficke	Andrea	n	6
Gaspar	Helena	n	7
Grabarczyk	Malgorzata	n	8
Jousse	Cyril	n	9
Karamanoli	Katerina	n	10
Khachatryan	Hasmik	y	11
Kiralj	Zoran	y	12
Kyrpislidi	Vasiliki Panagiota	y	13
Malinauskiene	Vida	n	14
Mamun	Faysal-Al	y	15
Maslov Bandić	Luna	n	16
Mijošek Pavin	Tatjana	y	17
Moldovan	Anna	y	18
Roncaglia dos Santos	Mayara	y	19
Ruhland	Fanny	y	20
Sanches	Mateus	y	21
Suljagić	Jasmin	n	22
Suljkanović	Mersiha	n	23
Vinceković	Marko	n	24
Wardak	Cecylia	n	25
Yadav	Nirmal	y	26
Zamboni	Carlotta	y	27 cancelled
Zlatkovic	Slobodan	n	28

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MC members at the MC meeting

Chair + Manager

Core Group

SMEs

Cancelled or never come

