

BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSCIENCES SEMINARS



Dipartimento di Biotecnologie e Bioscienze – UNIMIB

Thursday, November 21, 2024, 4:30 p.m., BIOS-U3 building, room U3-08

Genome editing in crops: are we part of a new Plant Biotechnology Renaissance?

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Abstract: Genome editing (GE) in plants it is commonly used to produce mutants for basic research and for breeding. As many agronomic favorable traits depend on allelic variants that can be reproduced by GE, the application potentialities of these techniques are immense. We started using CRISPR/Cas9 to create mutants in rice since its first applications in plants in 2013, appreciating its high efficiency, low cost and usefulness. Thanks to CRISPR we could characterize genes and developmental pathways, but when it came to applying for open field trials, we met a complex regulatory landscape. This could be finally overcome, and we were allowed to plant in 2024 the first GE Italian rice field.

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