

Curriculum Vitae (including gender)

Prof Vince Ördög (M) received his scientific degree (Candidate in Biological Sciences, CSc) from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, in 1982, and the title of Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (DSc) in 2015. He is full professor of plant physiology at the Széchenyi István University (SZE) from 1993, honorary professor of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, from 2012, and visiting professor of the Palacky University, Czech Republic from 2013. Prof Ördög was scientific advisor between 1986 and 1990 in Brazil, and is external expert of the European Commission since 2008. Prof Ördög has a wide spectrum of knowledge in the field of plant sciences with special reference to microalgae. He has significant professional contacts, which are based on his scientific activity and his good command of German, English and Portuguese languages. His first job was closely related to the environmental effect of pesticides. At the laboratory of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Hungary he investigated the effect of pesticides on microalgae. During the last 25 years he has been studying the plant hormone-like activity and the antimicrobial compounds of microalgae. His main aim is the use of microalgae as exogenous plant hormones or natural pesticides in crop production. His most recent interest is the study of microalgae lipid production. He has good professional contacts and successful collaborations in the field of Microalgal Biotechnology: since 1992 with Prof Otto Pulz (Institute of Cereal Processing, Germany), since 1995 with Prof Johannes van Staden (University of KwaZuluNatal, South Africa), and since 2000 with Prof Miroslav Strnad (Palacky University, Czech Republic). Prof Ördög was elected dean of the Faculty of the Agricultural and Food Sciences for eight years. At present he is the director of the Institute of Plant Biology. Prof Ördög published 50 peer reviewed papers (IF=58) and delivered more than 100 presentations in local and international scientific meetings. Prof. Ördög will contribute to the research work of the project related to microalgae screening, laboratory cultivation and mass production.

Széchenyi István University, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

The **Department of Plant Biology (IPB)** has the tenth largest microalgae collection in Europe with about 1000 strains (Mosonmagyaróvár Algal Culture Collection – MACC). Nearly 500 strains were isolated from tropical and Hungarian soils, and are available only in Mosonmagyaróvár. The staff of the IPB has high skills in isolation, cultivation and maintenance of microalgae strains, and in preparation of biomass samples for screening work. During the last 25 years the strains have been screened for their potential use in agriculture as biostimulants, biopesticides and insect repellents by bioassay methods and by molecular biological techniques. Plant pathologists, microbiologists and entomologists of the Faculty are involved in screening of microalgae for their antimicrobial and insect repellent activity. The multidisciplinary research team accumulated outstanding expertise in detection and control of plant diseases, as well as in cultivation of pathogens, and screening of different biomass samples for their antifungal activity. Beside the laboratory bioassays, the plant growth enhancing effects of selected strains have been proved also in field experiments with rapeseed, sunflower, potato, sugar beet, pepper and wheat. The extended national and international collaboration of the IPB resulted in obtaining several national (TÁMOP, GOP, JEDLIK, etc.), European (EcoBug, ProEcoWine, SABANA), and bilateral (Hungary and South Africa, Germany, Czech Republic etc.) grants. IPB has been organised international scientific meetings on “Microalgae and Seaweed Products in Agriculture” biannually since 1995 to distribute and exchange of knowledge in this specific research topic.