Exploiting plant secondary metabolites: ecological roles and applicative perspectives

*Dr. Fabrizio Araniti*

**DATE:** March 12th, 2020  
**TIME:** 14:30 – **ROOM:** aula Pellizzi  
Via Celoria 2, Milano

*Host: prof. Luca Espen*

**Abstract:** The production and release in the environment of specialized metabolites, belonging to the secondary metabolism, has led to the evolution of new ecological plant cross-kingdom interactions. The study of these metabolites could lead either to progress in chemical ecology, from mechanistic to functional and evolutionary questions, or offer applicative perspective in agriculture. Indeed, the isolation, identification and the understanding of the mode of action of these metabolites could help the agricultural industry in producing new pests and weeds killer as well as biostimulants with low biological and environmental impact.

**Curriculum Vitae:** Fabrizio Araniti is currently a Researcher in plant physiology at the Dep. AGRARIA of the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria. His academic career, started on 2008, was mainly focused on allelopathy and weed management. His PhD and Post Doc activities were focused on the isolation, characterization and screening of several phytotoxic allelochemicals. He collaborated in several national/international projects and he was PI of the project SIR-2014 (RBSI14L9CE) focused on the isolation of natural products with herbicidal activity and the identification of their mode of action through an –omics approaches. Recently he has participated in patenting natural-like benzofurans with herbicidal activity. Patent n° 102015902347682.