




CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal information **Madalina Oana POPA**

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Work experience

Dates	August 1 st , 2021 – onwards July 2 nd , 2013 – April 27 th , 2017
Occupation or position held	Scientific Research Assistant
Main activities and responsibilities	Scientific research in the field of molecular biology and genetics; advanced training and participation in scientific events and meetings.
Name and address of employer	National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Sciences (https://www.incdsb.ro/en/), Branch: "Stejarul" Research Centre for Biological Sciences (http://www.ccb-stejarul.ro/) Alexandru cel Bun 6, Piatra Neamt, 610004, Romania
Dates	April 1 st , 2009 – July 1 st , 2013
Occupation or position held	Junior Assistant
Main activities and responsibilities	Maintaining (care and breeding) of indigenous and rare plant collections; seed collection and conditioning; testing and optimization of different types of substrate for cultivation of various plant species; active participation in the organization of flowers, fruits and seeds exhibitions.
Name and address of employer	"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University / "Anastasiu Fatu" Botanical Garden Dumbrava Rosie St., 7-9, Iasi, RO-700487, Romania (http://botanica.uaic.ro/home_en.htm)

Education and training

April 2017 – September 2021	PhD candidate (thesis pending) Nicolaus Copernicus University Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences / Chair of Ecology and Biogeography Lwowska Street 1, Torun, PL-87-100, Poland (www.keib.umk.pl)
October 2013 – February 2016	MSc – Master of Science in Biology, Specialization: Molecular Genetics "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Faculty of Biology, Iasi, Romania (www.bio.uaic.ro)
October 2011 – July 2013	MSc – Master of Science in Biology, Specialization: Microbial and Cellular Biotechnologies "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Faculty of Biology, Iasi, Romania (www.bio.uaic.ro)
October 2008 – July 2011	BSc – Bachelor of Science in Biology, Specialization: Biology "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University, Faculty of Biology, Iasi, Romania (www.bio.uaic.ro)
Septembrie 2004 – Iunie 2008	High School, Specialization: Mathematics – Computer Science "Gheorghe Rosca Codreanu" National College, Barlad, Romania

Advanced training

Dates / Place	June 10-14, 2019 / Friday Harbor (WA), USA
Title of the course	Evolutionary Quantitative Genetics Workshop
Name of organization providing training	Friday Harbor Laboratories / University of Washington
Dates / Place	March 13-17, 2017 / Paris, France
Title of the course	Integrative taxonomy and taxonomic expertise: DNA barcodes in the genomic era
Name of organization providing training	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris
Dates / Place	October 12-13, 2016 / Iasi, Romania

Title of the course	Management of a Horizon 2020 project
Name of organization providing training	“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University and University of Bergen
Dates / Place	October 10-11, 2016 / Iasi, Romania
Title of the course	How to write a successful Horizon 2020 project
Name of organization providing training	“Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University and University of Bergen
Dates / Place	September 15, 2016/ Bucharest, Romania
Title	The First Conference of NGS users in Romania
Organised by	Antisel, Thermo Fisher Scientific and Romanian National Institute of Research „Cantacuzino”
Dates / Place	May 23-27, 2016 / Trieste, Italy
Title of the course	<i>Course "Bioinformatics: Computer Methods in Molecular and Systems Biology"</i>
Name of organization providing training	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)
Dates / Place	June 22-26, 2015 / As, Norway
Title	Environmental Radiobiology
Name of organization providing training	Centre for Environmental Radioactivity (CERAD) / Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)
Dates / Place	March 9-20, 2015 / Mol, Belgium
Title of the course	<i>Radiation-induced effects with particular emphasis on genetics, development, teratology, cognition as well as space-related health issues</i>
Name of organization providing training	Belgian Nuclear Research Centre SCK•CEN
Dates / Place	September 2-5, 2014 / Oak Park, Carlow, Ireland
Title of the course	<i>Summer School on Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) of GM Crops</i>
Name of organization providing training	Teagasc - Agriculture and Food Development Authority
Dates / Place	July 7-27, 2014 / Nove Hradky, Czech Republic
Title of the course	<i>Second Summer School in Molecular Biophysics and Systems Biology</i>
Name of organization providing training	Institute of Nanobiology and Structural Biology (GCRC)
Dates / Place	April 14 -17, 2014 / Trieste, Italy
Title of the course	<i>Theoretical Course "RNA Structure and Function"</i>
Name of organization providing training	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)
Dates / Place	July 2-7, 2012 / Arad, Romania
Title of the course	<i>Francophone Summer School "Pathologies et Pharmacologie Moleculaires"</i>
Name of organization providing training	“Vasile Goldis” Western University Arad Université Lille Nord de France Université Libre de Bruxelles

Awards & travel grants

Award / travel grant (year)	Name of the awarding institution
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Traineeship grant (2018)	Erasmus+ Program
Travel Grant (2016)	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)
Travel Grant (2014)	International Visegrad Fund
Travel Grant (2014)	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)
Study grant (2012 – 2013)	EC/LLP-Erasmus Program

Scholarships & internships

Dates / Place	September 10, 2018 – December 7, 2018 / Vairao (Porto), Portugal
Title	Erasmus+ Traineeship grant

Name of organization providing education	FCUP-CIBIO / Faculty of Sciences / University of Porto
Main activities and responsibilities	Carrying out common garden experiments, measuring plant phenotypes, building and analyzing quantitative genetic models and field sampling of plants.
Dates / Place	June 22-September 9, 2015 / Oslo, Norway
Title	<i>Scientific Research Internship (in the framework of the EEA project PhytoAuthent)</i>
Name of organization providing education	Natural History Museum / University of Oslo
Main activities and responsibilities	Samples collection and molecular lab work for the purpose of authentication (through DNA barcoding) of herbal food supplements.
Dates / Place	October 1, 2012 – February 1, 2013 / Camerino, Italy
Title	LLP/Erasmus study grant
Name of organization providing education	Università degli studi di Camerino / Scuola di Bioscienze e Biotecnologie (Camerino, Italy) (www.unicam.it)
Main activities and responsibilities	Attending classes in the field of genetics, molecular diagnostics and biotechnology and accumulating knowledge and advanced skills in analytical methodologies and the related instrumentation by participation to seminars and lab practical sessions.

Participant in research projects

UEFISCDI / European Commission / PNCDI IV – ERANET / contract no. 24/2024 “Harmonizing plant metabarcoding pipelines in Europe to support monitoring activities in the field of plants and their functional organismic networks” (METAPLANTCODE) / Biodiversa+ BiodivMon (2024 - 2026).
 Project duration: 33 months (2024 – 2026)
 Project responsible: Dr. Mihael Cristin ICHIM
 Website: <https://www.biodiversa.eu/2022/10/07/2022-2023-joint-call/#fundedprojects>

PNCDI IV / Core Program (2023 – 2026), project no. 3020301 / contract 7N/2022
 "Integrated analytical solutions for improving the conformity and quality of products obtained from medicinal and aromatic plants in order to ensure consumer protection and sustainable exploitation of biodiversity" (SAFEMAPS)
<https://sites.google.com/view/safemaps>

PNRR / Component 9 Support for the private sector, research, development and innovation / Investment 5. Establishment and operationalization of competence centers/ Project "Integrated research and sustainable solutions for the protection and restoration of ecosystems in the lower Danube basin - Black Sea coastal area" (ResPonSE) (2023 – 2025)
 “Monitoring and evaluation of ecosystems’ status and services through assessment of insect abundance and diversity with Malaise and pitfall traps using conventional morphological identification and DNA barcoding” (contract no. 760010/2022)

Financing: National Science Center, Grant agreement no UMO-2015/18/E/NZ8/00716
 Project title: Linking micro- and macroevolution: do genetic constraints predict phenotypic divergence?
 Project coordinator: Dr. Marcin Piwczynski (NCU, Poland)
 Website: <http://piwczynski.prac.umk.pl/research/>

Financing: FP7 - KBBE.2011.3.5-01 [GM crops in the EU – systematically assessing environmental and economic impacts], Grant agreement no 289706
 Project title: Assessing and Monitoring the Impacts of Genetically modified plants on Agro-ecosystems (AMIGA)
 Project duration: 54 months (December 2011 – May 2016)
 Project coordinator: Dr. Salvatore Arpaia (ENEA, Italy)
 Project responsible of the Romanian partner: Dr. Mihael Cristin ICHIM
 Project website: www.amigaproject.eu

Financing: Romanian-EEA Research Programme, Grant agreement no 2SEE / 30.06.2014
 Project title: Molecular authentication of complex herbal food supplements for safety and efficacy (PhytoAuthent)
 Project duration: 34 months (July 2014 –April 2017)
 Project coordinator: Dr. Mihael Cristin ICHIM
 Project responsible of the Norwegian partner: Dr. Hugo de BOER
 Project website: <http://phytoauthent.webs.com/>

Scientific meetings

Dates / Place	September 16-17, 2016/ Wroclaw, Poland
Title of the conference	<i>Plants in Pharmacy and Nutrition (2nd International Young Scientist Symposium)</i>
Abstract title	<i>Molecular Authentication of Complex Herbal Food Supplements for Safety and Efficacy (Book of abstracts ISBN 978-83-7055-591-7 p.148)</i>
Organised by	Faculty of Pharmacy / Wroclaw Medical University Association for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants of Southeast European Countries (AMAPSEEC) Website: http://www.ppn.umed.wroc.pl/
Dates / Place	September 6-9, 2016/ Piatra Neamt, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>Medicinal Plants – Present and perspectives</i>
Abstract title	<i>Progress towards efficient and cost effective molecular authentication of complex herbal food supplements through biochemical fingerprinting and DNA barcoding (Book of abstracts p. 158-159)</i>
Organised by	INCDSB / "Stejarul" Biological Research Centre Website: http://www.incdsb.ro/p/CCB-Stejarul/MaPS2016/index_ro.html
Dates / Place	May 31 – June 2, 2016 / Murighiol, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>Modern Biotechnologies in Sustainable Development of the Danube Delta – STANDArD</i>
Organised by	IUBMB and National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Science, Bucharest Website: http://www.incdsb.ro/p/Conference/index.html#
Dates / Place	April 6-7, 2016 / Prague, Czech Republic
Title of the conference	<i>Assuring the integrity of the food chain: Fighting food fraud</i>
Organised by	University of Chemistry and Technology Prague Website: http://www.foodintegrity2016.eu/FI_2016_BoA.html
Dates / Place	October 23, 2014 / Iasi, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>The Annual Students Scientific Session "Biodiversity without frontiers"</i>
Organised by	Faculty of Biology / "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University (Iasi, Romania) Website: http://www.bio.uaic.ro/sesiune/2014/index_eng.html
Dates / Place	May 20-22, 2014 / Bucharest, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>Symposium on Modern Biotechnological Advances for Human Health – BAHH</i>
Organised by	IUBMB / ICGEB and National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Science, Bucharest Website: http://www.dbioro.eu/index.php?lang=ro
Dates / Place	April 27-30, 2014/ Piatra Neamt, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>Phytochemicals in Medicine and Pharmacognosy</i>
Abstract title	<i>Identification of medicinal plant species through DNA barcoding for a safe and efficient use of phytochemicals (Book of abstracts – Trends in Natural Products Research p.64)</i>
Organised by	Phytochemical Society of Europe and INCDSB / "Stejarul" Biological Research Centre Website: www.ccb-stejarul.ro/PSE2014.html
Dates / Place	July 5, 2012 / Arad, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>International Conference on Cellular Therapy and Biomaterials</i>
Organised by	"Vasile Goldis" Western University, Arad
Dates / Place	October 27-29, 2011 / Iasi, Romania
Title of the conference	<i>Scientific Symposium: In situ and ex situ Plant Diversity Conservation</i>
Organised by	"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iasi / "Anastase Fătu" Botanical Garden

Personal skills and competences

Mother tongue

Other languages

Self-assessment

European level (*)

Romanian

Understanding				Speaking				Writing	
Listening		Reading		Spoken interaction		Spoken production			
C1	Proficient user	C1	Proficient user	B2	Independent user	B2	Independent user	B2	Independent user
A2	Basic user	A2	Basic user	A1	Basic user	A1	Basic user	A2	Basic user

English

French

(*) Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Laboratory and technical skills

DNA isolation, purification and quantification (CTAB and DNA extraction kits); horizontal gel electrophoresis (DNA); preparing and casting agarose gels; PCR: primer aliquot, Master Mix preparation, optimization of different parameters; Sanger sequencing, RADseq; UV/VIS spectrophotometry; light microscopy; plant tissue culture; microbiological culture; preparation and sterilization of media; etc.

Publications

Raclariu, A. C., Mocan, A., Popa, M. O., Vlase, L., Ichim, M. C., Crisan, G., et al. (2017). *Veronica officinalis* product authentication using DNA metabarcoding and HPLC-MS reveals widespread adulteration with *Veronica chamaedrys*. *Front. Pharmacol.* 8:378. doi: 10.3389/fphar.2017.00378

Puchauka, R., Rutkowski, L., Popa, M.-O., Pliszko, A. and Piwczyński, M. 2018. *Bur-Chervil Anthriscus caucalis* M.Bieb. (Apiaceae) - Potentially Invasive Species in Forests. *Baltic Forestry* 24(2): 189-200.

Piwczyński, M., Trzeciak, P., Popa, M.-O., Pabijan, M., Corral, J.M., Spalik, K. and Grzywacz, A. (2021), Using RAD seq for reconstructing phylogenies of highly diverged taxa: A test using the tribe Scandiceae (Apiaceae). *J. Syst. Evol.*, 59: 58-72. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jse.12580>

Piwczyński, M., Granjon, L., Trzeciak, P., Carlos Brito, J., Oana Popa, M., Daba Dinka, M., Johnston, N. P., & Boratyński, Z. (2023). Unraveling phylogenetic relationships and species boundaries in the arid adapted *Gerbillus* rodents (Muridae: Gerbillinae) by RAD-seq data. *Molecular phylogenetics and evolution*, 189, 107913. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2023.107913>

April 5th, 2024

Madalina Oana POPA