

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

'Searching for and exploiting new sources of plant and agriwaste-based crop protectants'



Dr. Omar SANTANA MERIDAS

Senior researcher at the Castilla-La Mancha Science and Technology Park of the Agricultural Research Centre of Albaladejito in Cuenca, Spain. His overall research focuses on the search for products (antioxidants and crop protectants) from wild and cultivated plants and agricultural residues that can be high value-added. The objectives of Dr Santana Meridas's current research include the identification of 'hits' by selection and bioprospecting of new raw materials, metabolomic profiling of the bioactive extracts and bioassay-guided isolation, and identification of their active compounds.

'Biological control implementation in Turkey'



Ali EROGLU M.Sc

Executive Director of Koppert Biological Systems (Turkey) in Antalya, Turkey. He is the chairperson of the Antalya Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (ANSIAD). Mr Eroglu is also the chairperson of the Biological Product Suppliers Association (BIOTED) and the Turkish division of International Biocontrol Manufacturer's Association (IBMA).

'Recent developments in fungal taxonomy and their impact on biological control; *Verticillium* as a case study'



Prof. Dr. Rasoul ZARE

Research professor at the Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection in Tehran and visiting professor at Shiraz and Tarbiat Modarress universities. He did his PhD in mycology at Reading University and the IMI, England, and later worked as a post-doctoral fellow on the molecular phylogeny of the *Verticillium* section *Albo-erecta* at CBS in the Netherlands. Prof Zare, who is the curator of the Iranian Fungal Culture Collection, has mostly focused on the systematics of the fungal genus *Verticillium* which includes some of the most severe plant pathogens but also some of the most promising biocontrol agents.