



The Laboratory of Extremophile Plants at the Centre of Biotechnology of Borj Cedria (CBBC)  
&  
the Plant Stress Group at the University of the Western Cape (UWC)

In association with

the Tunisian Association of Genetic Resources (TAGR)

organize

the second Tunisian-South African Workshop on

**« Using Natural Genetic Variation for Tolerance of Forage Crops to Environmental Constraints in the Context of Climate Change »**

Tuesday, 24 April 2018, CBBC, Tunisia

*This Workshop is organized in the framework of the Tunisian-South African bilateral project (2016-2018): « Analysis of genetic determinants for tolerance to water deficit in the model legume *Medicago truncatula* ».*

**Organizing committee**

Dr. Mounawer Badri\*, CBBC  
Prof. Chedly Abdelly, CBBC  
Dr. Naceur Djébal, CBBC  
Dr. Mohsen Hanana, CBBC  
Dr. Asma Mahjoub, CBBC  
Dr. Hatem Ben Jouira, CBBC  
Dr. Amani Taamalli, CBBC

Prof. Ndiko Ludidi\*, UWC  
Dr. Marshall Keyster, UWC  
Dr. Ashwil Klein, UWC

Secretary: Henda Trabelsi & Najah Ben Cheikh

\*,+ : Coordinators of Tunisian-South African Project

**Program of the Workshop**

Time	Session (chairperson)	Schedule
8h00-8h45		Registration
8h45-9h00		Welcoming and opening address
9h00-9h30		Prof. Ndiko Ludidi, UWC Africa-driven science holds the key: Developing drought tolerance in African indigenous crops for forage and food
9h30- 10h00	<b>Session 1</b> (Chairpersons: Prof. Chedly Abdelly & Dr. Marshall Keyster)	Dr. Mounawer Badri, LPE, CBBC Salt tolerance in <i>Medicago truncatula</i> : Focus on local adaptation and genetic determinants
10h00-10h30		Dr. Mhemmed Gandour, LPE, CBBC Agro-ecology in the face of climate change challenges in Tunisia
10h30-10h50		Dr. Inès Slama, LPE, CBBC Traits of tolerance to water deficit stress in some forage plants

10h50-11h00		Coffee break
11h00-11h30	<b>Session 2</b> (Chairperson: Prof. Ndiko Ludidi)	<b>Dr. Marshall Keyster, UWC</b> Building towards a diverse plant bacterial endophyte collection for feed and food crop improvement in the wake of climate change
11h30-12h00		<b>Dr. Mohsen Hanana, LPE, CBBC</b> Useful resources and databases for <i>Medicago truncatula</i> studies
12h00-12h20		<b>Mrs. Loua Haddoudi, LPE, CBBC</b> Genetic diversity of root and aerial growths in response to drought stress in <i>Medicago truncatula</i>
12h20-12h40		<b>Mrs. Meriem Aloui, LPE, CBBC</b> Natural variation for salt tolerance in <i>Medicago ciliaris</i>
12h40-13h00		<b>Dr. Nahida Jelali, LPE, CBBC</b> Getting a sense for signals: regulation of forage plants under changing environment
13h00-14h00		Lunch
14h00-14h30	<b>Session 3</b> (Chairperson: Dr. Mounawer Badri)	<b>Dr. Naceur Djébali, LSBA, CBBC</b> Natural diversity as a key for a sustainable control of plant diseases: the case of black and leaf spots disease of <i>Medicago</i> sp.
14h30-15h00		<b>Dr. Ashwil Klein, UWC</b> The impact of Fusarium infection on three wheat lines with contrasting responses to drought stress
15h00-15h30	<b>Session 4</b> (Chairperson: Dr. Naceur Djébali)	<b>Ms. Amina Ayadi, LPE, CBBC</b> Infection and development of <i>Phoma medicaginis</i> on a core collection of lines of <i>Medicago truncatula</i>
15h30-16h00		<b>Dr. Besma Sghaier, LPE, CBBC</b> Impact of the bioclimatic stages on the halophyte <i>Cakile maritima</i> response to <i>Alternaria alternata</i> attack: eco-physiological and biochemical studies
16h30-17h00		<b>Ms. Manel Chaouachi, LSBA, CBBC</b> Annual <i>Medicago</i> species harbor a multitude of bacterial endophytes with antagonistic activities against foliar and root fungal pathogens
17h00-17h45	<b>Session 5</b> (Chairperson: Dr. Ashwil Klein)	Posters session
17h45-18h00		Conclusions & Delivery of certificates

### Application to Workshop

A completed application form and an abstract of 300 Words (Times New Roman, 14 pt, bold, for title and 12 pt for text) must be sent by e-mail to the Tunisian Association of Genetic Resources (TAGR) at the e-mail address: [tagr.contact@gmail.com](mailto:tagr.contact@gmail.com) before April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Selected candidates will be notified by e-mail before April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and are invited to prepare posters A3 size. The number of participants is limited to 30. The registration fee is 10 TD membership fee to the Tunisian Association of Genetic Resources (TAGR) for participants who are not already a membership of the TAGR.

