

Curriculum Vitae of Michele Morgante

Contact: Dipartimento di Scienze AgroAlimentari, Ambientali ed Animali
Università di Udine

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Appointments and qualifications:

1983-1987: Laurea in Forest Sciences, Università di Padova, Italy

1988-1990 Research Fellow of Regione FVG at the Dipartimento di Produzione Vegetale e Tecnologie Agrarie, University of Udine, Italy.

1990-1992 Research Fellow in Agricultural Genetics of the "V.V. Landi" Foundation of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei

1992-1994 Postdoctoral Visiting Scientist at Agricultural Products Department - Biotechnology Research, E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, DE

1994-2000 Tenured Assistant Professor, Genetics, at the Dipartimento di Produzione Vegetale e Tecnologie Agrarie, University of Udine, Italy (on leave of absence from 02/1998 to 10/2000)

1998-2002 Senior Scientist, Agricultural Products Department - Biotechnology Research, E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, DE

2000- 2005 Associate Professor, Plant Genetics, at the Dipartimento di Produzione Vegetale e Tecnologie Agrarie, University of Udine, Italy (part-time appointment until 11/2002)

2005- current Full Professor, Genetics, Università di Udine

2005- 2009 Guest Professor, Umea Plant Science Center, Umea University, Sweden

2006- current Scientific Director, Istituto di Genomica Applicata, Parco Scientifico Luigi Danieli, Udine

2008-2013 Rector Delegate for Research and Technology Transfer, Università di Udine

2010- Associate Researcher, Istituto di Genetica Vegetale, CNR

2013-2013 Vice Rector (Prorettore Vicario), Università di Udine

2013- current President, Consorzio InnovaFVG

2013-2015 President elect, Società Italiana di Genetica Agraria

2015-2017 President, Società Italiana di Genetica Agraria

2015-current Board member, Area Science Park, Trieste

Awards and honors

- 2015 Elected Member, Accademia Nazionale di Agricoltura
- 2011 European Research Council Advanced Grant Award
- 2010 Elected Member, Accademia Italiana della Vite e del Vino
- 2007 Elected Member, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Italian National Academy of Sciences)
- 2006 Elected Member, Accademia Italiana di Scienze Forestali
- 2005 Medal for Physical and Natural Sciences, Accademia delle Scienze detta dei XL
- 2003 DuPont Young Professor Award
- 1990 Research Fellowship, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei

Recent miscellaneous activity

Editorial:

Associate Editor, Theoretical and Applied Genetics (2005-2009); Associate Editor, Tree Genetics and Genomes (2005-2009); Associate Editor, BMC Genetics (2010-2011); Section Editor, BMC Genetics (2011-); Associate Editor, BMC Plant Biology (2010-)

Scientific Advisory Boards:

Dipartimento Agroalimentare, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (2006-2012);

IBERS, Aberystwyth University, UK (2008-);

UPSC Research School in Forest Genetics, Umea, Sweden (2005-2009);

IRTA (Istituto de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentaries), Barcelona (2010-)

SMARTForest Project, GenomeCanada, Canada, (2011-)

French Plant Genomic Resources Center (CNRGV), Francia (2013-)

Board of Directors:

Area Science Park, Trieste (2008-2011)

IGA Technology Services Srl (2013-)

Area Science Park, Trieste (2015-2018)

Grant Advisory Panels:

ERC, Advanced Grants Life Sciences 8: Evolutionary, Population and Environmental Biology (2008-2011); ERC Consolidator Grants Life Sciences 9: Applied Life Sciences and Biotechnology (2013-active); NSF Plant Genome Panel (2006); Generation Challenge Program Panel (2004); Agence Nationale de la Recherche, Biotechnology and Bioresource Engineering (2010-2011); EU FPVII-Infrastructures (2010-2011); Chile Genome Program CONICYT (2008-2013), NWO (Olanda) (2014, 2015, 2017), Experimental Plant Science Doctorate School (Olanda) (2015), Commissione MIUR per progetti PON distretti e laboratory pubblico-privato (2013-), ICREA (Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies) Spagna (2015, 2017).

Grant Funding

Recent:

ERANET-Plant Genomics Research project: "Genomics-assisted dissection of barley morphology and development" P.I. (2007-2011) 429000 EU

MIPAF Progetto Speciale DRUPOMICS "Sequenziamento del genoma del pesco ed utilizzo della sequenza in programmi di miglioramento della qualità del frutto del pesco e della resistenza alle malattie" P.I. (2008-2010) 690000 EU

MIPAF Progetto Speciale Cromosoma 5A Frumento "Mappa fisica del cromosoma 5A dei frumenti": P.I. (2008-2011) 200000 EU

MIPAF Special Project CITROMICS "Citrus genome sequencing and applications to functional genomics and breeding" (2009-2011) 320000 EU

PRIN 2008 "Towards the elucidation of the molecular bases of heterosis in cultivated plants: global molecular characterization of hybrids and discovery of genes involved in heterosis" PI and national coordinator (2010-2012) 34000 EU

NOVELTREEBREEDING "Novel tree breeding strategies" EU FPVII, P.I. (2008-2012) 233000 EU

ENERGYPOPLAR "Enhancing Poplar Traits for Energy Applications" EU FPVII, P.I. (2008-2012) 428000 EU

TRITICEAEGENOME "Genomics for Triticeae improvement" EU FPVII, P.I. (2008-2012) 528000 EU

MIPAF Special Project OLEA "Genomics and breeding of olive tree" (2011-2012) 310000 EU

AGER project "From Seed to Pasta: integrated research for the production of high quality durum wheat": P.I. (2010-2013) 470000 EU

MIPAF Special Project VITIGNO "Analysis and evaluation of Italian autoctonous grapevine varieties" (2011-2013) 330000 EU

MIUR Progetto Bandiera Epigenomica: "Next generation sequencing for epigenomic analysis" (2012-2014) 4200000 EU

European Research Council Advanced Grant: "NOVABREED: Novel variation in plant breeding and the plant pan-genomes" (2012-2017) 2473500 EU

WATBIO "Development of improved perennial non-food biomass and bioproduct crops for water stressed environments", EU FPVII, P.I. (2012-2017) 900000 EU

Patents

I am inventor on 16 US and international patents concerning genome analysis methods and the use of genes in plant breeding and transgenic applications

Tutoring activity

I have been PhD thesis advisor for 18 students (6 current) and of 30 postdocs (5 current) many of which have continued in a successful science career with positions at University of Arizona, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa, INRA, IASMA, Danforth Plant Science Center or in private companies.

Publications

As of 01/01/2018 I have more than 130 publications (3 in Nature, 3 in Nature Genetics, 3 in Nature Biotechnology, 2 in Nature Reviews Genetics, 3 in PNAS) indexed in Web of Science starting in 1991 that have attracted in Google Scholar 25413 citations for an H-index of 66.

Research interests

Structural and functional genomics, genome evolution, epigenetic variation, variation of gene regulation, transposable elements and their role in regulating gene expression.