

Dr. Francesca Degola, Adjunct Professor from Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability, University of Parma, Parma, Italy

After a master degree in Molecular Biology I earned my PhD in Plant Science. Post-doc and Adjunct Professor of Botany and Plant Science at University of Parma, my scientific research covers different aspects concerning the plant protection: in particular, abiotic stresses such as heavy metal and new generation drug response, and biotic issues linked to phytopathogenic microorganisms. Main topics are connected to mycotoxigenic fungi contaminating agricultural commodities: the study of mycotoxins biosynthesis and metabolism, the characterization of the *Aspergillus* population colonizing maize fields (including its mycovirome), the development of intraspecific bio-competition strategies to contain aflatoxins contamination, the design and validation of new generation antifungal compounds (both plant-derived and newly synthesized) and the study of their effects on plants growth and development. Dr. Francesca Degola, Adjunct Professor will present the lecture on „***Mycotoxins: new strategies for old enemies. Aflatox® Project***”.