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SHOTA RUSTAVELI NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OF GEORGIA

Mariam Betsiashvili

Ph.D., Professor

Professional Career:

2021 – till now	Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia, Deputy Head of the Science Department
2021 – till now	The University of Georgia, Department of Natural Sciences, School of Science and Technology, Professor
2017 – 2021	Georgian Technical University, International Agronomy Master's Program, Invited Professor
2015 - 2021	Agricultural University of Georgia, The Bank of Plant Genetic Resources, Genebank Manager
2013 - 2021	Agricultural University of Georgia, Associate Professor
2017 - 2018	University of California San Diego, Division of Biological Sciences, Affiliated Researcher
2014 - 2017	Caucasus International University, Master's Program in Plant Selection and Genetics, Associate Professor
2013 - 2015	Agricultural University of Georgia, Institute of Crop Sciences, Research Scientist
2013 - 2014	Cornell University, Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Affiliated Researcher
1998 - 2012	Durmishidze Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Research Scientist

Educational background:

2003	Durmishidze Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Candidate of Biological Sciences (Ph.D.)
1995 – 1998	Durmishidze Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Ph.D. Student
1990 – 1995	Georgian Technical University, Biotechnology
2006, 2009, 2012	Institute of pharmacy and food chemistry, University of Würzburg, Germany, Post- doctoral researcher



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Trainings and Courses

Training course on Program Budgeting , Public Audit Institute (PAI) of State Audit Office (SAO), Tbilisi, Georgia
International course on Integrated pest management and food safety . Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, WUR, Wageningen, Netherlands
ICRA (International Centre for development-oriented Research in Agriculture) course for professionals working in tertiary agricultural and rural education on " Learning, action research and outreach - Making higher education boost food security ", Wageningen, Netherlands
GIZ IBIS Training of Trainers of the Course on Integrating Ecosystem Servicies into Development Planning (IES Training), 24-28 September, Kakheti, Georgia
International course on Contemporary approaches to genetic resources conservation and use . Centre for Development Innovation (CDI), Wageningen University, Wageningen, Netherlands
International course on Plant genetic resources and seeds: community resilience in the face of change . Centre for Development Innovation (CDI), Wageningen UR, Chennai, India
ELLS Course on Genetic Resources in Crop Breeding - Conservation, Characterization and Utilization. Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Alnarp, Sweden
International Training for Trainers in Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) , UNDP, Prague, Czech Republic, 2007
40th UNEP/UNESCO/BMU International Course on Environmental Management for Developing and Emerging Countries - Soil Management; Technical University of Dresden. Dresden, Germany
International post-graduate course on Biotechnology and Bioinformatics in Agriculture: Plants and Microorganisms " the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Faculty of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Quality Sciences. Rehovot, Israel
Grant-Writing Workshop: Competing More Effectively . The Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU). Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Training Course - Cost Accounting, USAID-GESP and Georgian Federation of Professional Accountants and Auditors (GFPAA) joint project, Tbilisi, Georgia

Research Grants

2016-2019	Project leader - "Acquisition, regeneration and characterization of unique samples of local genetic resources of plants protected in foreign genebanks", Shota Rustaveli
	National Science Foundation, FR Grant # 218050

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2017-2018Visiting Researcher - "Identification of Antimicrobial Defense Regulatory Genes in Maize", University of California, San Diego, USA. Fulbright (Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program) grant # E05812992014Soung scientist - "Determining the corn resistance locus against aphids", Cornell University, USA, National Science Foundation of Georgia, YS / 52 / 10-101 / 13;2013Young Scientist - "Investigation of Biochemical and Genetic Basis of Maize Resistance to Aphids", Cornell University, USA, National Science Foundation of Georgia, YS / 36 / 10- 101 / 122006, 2009, 2012Post-doctoral researcher - "Uncovering the role of glucosinolates in plant defense mechanisms against pollution stress", University of Würzburg, Germany, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) - A / 12/051392010-2013Project manager - "Bean bacterioses in Georgia: isolation and study of their causative pathogens Xanthomonas phaseoli and Pseudomonas phaseolicola and specific bacteriophages for the development of a biological method of combating the disease", National Science Foundation of Georgia, project # 1-8/352010Participant - GCCW - USAID Caucasus Cooperative Agreement # AID-114-A-09-00008 "Forestry in Georgia: Sustainable Production, Sustainable Consumption"2006-2009Ram leader - STCU project #0.129 "Bacteriophage, an effective biological bases by establishment of regional microbial culture collection of the Caucasus"2005-2008Rean leader - ISTC project #G-718 "Development of a new strategy for phytoremediation on protection of hydrocarbon-contaminated environment"		
2014University, USA, National Science Foundation of Georgia, YS / 52 / 10-101 / 13;2013Young Scientist - "Investigation of Biochemical and Genetic Basis of Maize Resistance to Aphids", Cornell University, USA, National Science Foundation of Georgia, YS / 36 / 10- 101 / 122006, 2009, 2012Post-doctoral researcher - "Uncovering the role of glucosinolates in plant defense mechanisms against pollution stress", University of Würzburg, Germany, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) - A / 12/051392010-2013Project manager - "Bean bacterioses in Georgia: isolation and study of their causative pathogens Xanthomonas phaseoli and Pseudomonas phaseolicola and specific bacteriophages for the development of a biological method of combating the disease", National Science Foundation of Georgia, project # 1-8/352010Participant - GCCW - USAID Caucasus Cooperative Agreement # AID-114-A-09-00008 "Forestry in Georgia: Sustainable Production, Sustainable Consumption"2006 - 2009Team leader - STCU project 3802 "A new approach to improve environmental assurance of oil pipelines"2005 - 2008Participant - CRDF SCI-01002-SC-05 project "Creation of biotechnological bases by establishment of regional microbial culture collection of the Caucasus"2004 - 2007Participant - STCU project #0-1129 "Bacteriophage, an effective biological tool against plant diseases caused by pathogenic bacteria"2002 - 2005Team leader - ISTC project #0-196 "Microbial diversity for new biotechnological applications"2002 - 2005Team leader - ISTC project #0-198 "Microbial diversity for new biotechnological applications"	2017-2018	Maize", University of California, San Diego, USA. Fulbright (Fulbright Visiting Scholar
2013Aphids", Cornell University, USA, National Science Foundation of Georgia, YS / 36 / 10-101 / 122006, 2009, 2012Post-doctoral researcher - "Uncovering the role of glucosinolates in plant defense mechanisms against pollution stress", University of Würzburg, Germany, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) - A / 12/051392010-2013Project manager - "Bean bacterioses in Georgia: isolation and study of their causative pathogens <i>Xanthomonas phaseoli</i> and <i>Pseudomonas phaseolicola</i> and specific bacteriophages for the development of a biological method of combating the disease", National Science Foundation of Georgia, project # 1-8/352010Participant - GCCW - USAID Caucasus Cooperative Agreement # AID-114-A-09-00008 "Forestry in Georgia: Sustainable Production, Sustainable Consumption"2006 - 2009Participant - CRDF SCI-01002-SC-05 project "Creation of biotechnological bases by establishment of regional microbial culture collection of the Caucasus"2005 - 2008Team leader - ISTC project #G-1129 "Bacteriophage, an effective biological tool against plant diseases caused by pathogenic bacteria"2004 - 2007Participant - STCU project #G-718 "Development of a new strategy for phytoremediation	2014	
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2004 – 2007 applications" 2002 – 2005 Team leader - ISTC project #G-718 "Development of a new strategy for phytoremediation	2005 – 2008	
	2004 - 2007	
	2002 – 2005	

Scientific Publications

2020	Ding, Y., Weckwerth, P.R., Poretsky, Betsiashvili M., Dressano K., Köllner T., Briggs S., Zerbe P., Schmelz E., Huffaker A. Genetic elucidation of interconnected antibiotic pathways mediating maize innate immunity, <i>Nature Plants, Springer Nature</i> , 6, 1375–1388
2020	M. Betsiashvili , Ts. Samadashvili, N. Simonishvili, N. Silagava, U. Lohwasser. Agro- morphological and biochemical characterization of Georgian common wheat (T. aestivum) – "Dolis puri" sub-varieties. <i>Annals of Agrarian Science</i> . Elsevier. # 4,
2019	M. Betsiashvili , Ts. Samadashvili, N. Silagava, N. Simonishvili. Georgian Field Crops Biodiversity Catalogue, <i>Free and Agricultural Universites Press</i> . 204 p.
2019	Betsiashvili1 M., Weber Ch., Bank. St., and Holzgrabe U. Revelation of the role of glucosinolates in plant defense responses against pollution stress. <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Plant, Cellular & Molecular Biology – Plant - 2019</i> .

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2018	Mafu S., Ding Y., Murphy K.M., Yaacoobi O., Addison J.B., Wang Q., Shen Z., Briggs S.P., Bohlma J., Castro G.A., Hughes Ch.C., Betsiashvili M . Zerbe Ph. Discovery, biosynthesis and stress-related accumulation of dolabradiene-derived defenses in maize. <i>Plant Physiology</i> , Vol. 176, 4, pp. 2677–2690.
2015	Betsiashvili M., Ahern K. R., and Jander G. Additive effects of two quantitative trait loci that confer Rhopalosiphum maidis (corn leaf aphid) resistance in maize inbred line Mo17. <i>Journal of Experimental Botany</i> , 66 (2): 571-578.
2012	Sadunishvili T., Giorgobiani N., Amashukeli N., Betsiashvili M., Kuprava N., Zaalishvili G., Strategy of biological control of phytopathogenic bacteria in Georgia. <i>Annals of Agrarian</i> <i>Science</i> , 10:2.
2009	Sadunishvili T, Kvesitadze E., Betsiashvili M ., Kuprava N., Zaalishvili G., Kvesitadze G. Influence of Hydrocarbons on Plant Cell Ultrastructure and Main Metabolic Enzymes. <i>World</i> <i>Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology</i> , ISSN 2070-3724. Vol.3, pp.261-266.
2009	Sadunishvili T, Kvesitadze E., Betsiashvili M., Kuprava N., Amashukeli N., Zaalishvili G. Plant basic metabolism enzymes and cell ultrastructure under contamination stress. <i>The ukrainian</i> <i>Biochemical Journal</i> , ISSN-8470. Vol. 81, #4, p.310.
2008	Sadunishvili T., Betsiashvili M., Kuprava N., Amashukeli N., Dzamukashvili N. Key metabolic and oxidative enzymes activities in affected by bacterial spot tomato. <i>Journal of Plant</i> <i>Pathology</i> , Vol. 90, P.239
2008	Lomsianidze I., Mitaishvili T., Betsiashvili M. , Vashakmadze V., Kuprava N. Influence of ammoinium nitrate introduction on glutamate dehydrogenaze and glutamine synthetase activities and protein content in roots and leaves of maize. <i>Proceedings of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.</i> Vol. 6, No. 3-4, pp 1-5.
2007	Tsulukidze N., Betsiashvili M., Dzamukashvili N., Sadunishvili T., Kvesitadze E. The impact of bioactive preparations on the resistance of reygrass exposed to organic tocants – benzene, 3, 4 –benzpyrene and trinitrotoluene. <i>Proceedings of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.</i> Vol. 5, No. 1, pp 1-7
2006	Sadunishvili T., Kuprava N., Aplakov V., Betsiashvili M., Zaalishvili G., Mitaishvili T., Kvesitadze E. Ammonia Assimilation Enzymes and cell ultrastructure in Maize and Soybean. <i>Proceedings of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.</i> Vol. 14 No. 2, pp 16-22,
2006	Kuprava N., Betsiashvili M., Dzamukashvili N. Sadunishvili T., and academician Nutsubidze N. Influence of Rhizobium and free-living nitrogen-fixsing bacteria on nitrogen assimilation enzymes of soybean plant. <i>Bulletin of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.</i> Vol.173 N 2, pp 348- 351
2005	Sadunishvili T., Betsiashvili M., Zaalishvili G. and Kvesitadze G. Structural-functional changes in plant cell as a result of aromatic hydrocarbons penetration. <i>15th Annual West Coast</i> <i>Conference on Soil, Sediments and Water</i> , San Diego, CA. March 14-17.

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2004	Gigolashvili G., Amashukeli N., Sadunishvili T., Betsiashvili M., Tsulukidze N. Establishment of cereal cultures interspectic differences by the method of isoelectrofocusing. <i>Bulletin of the Georgian Academy of Science.</i> vol. 170, No. 2, p. 367-369.
2004	Betsiashvili M., Sadunishvili T., Amashukeli N., Tsulukidze N., Shapovalova N., Dzamukashvili N. and Nutsubidze N. Effect of aromatic hydrocarbons on main metabolic and energetic enzymes in maize, ryegrass and kidney bean seedlings. <i>Bulletin of the Georgian Academy of Science.</i> vol. 170, No. 1, p. 172-174.
2004	Betsiashvili M., Sadunishvili T., Amashukeli N., Kuprava N., Tsulukidze N. Effect of different concentrations of alkanes on maize, ryegrass and kidney bean seedlings. <i>Proceedings of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.</i> vol. 2, No.1-2, p.1-5.
2003	Betsiashvili M., Kuprava N., Sadunishvili T., Nutsubidze N. Study of the Soybean Protein Amino Acid Composition and Preparation of High Nutritional Value Food Protein Product, <i>Bulletin of the Georgian Academy of Sciences</i> . vol. 167, No 1, 130-133.
2002	Betsiashvili M., Sadunishvili T., Gigolashvili G., Nutsubidze N., Kvesitadze G. Valuable food protein preparation from soybean. <i>Advances in Food Sciences.</i> 24, 1, 20-23. http://www.psp-parlar.de/ ISSN: 1431-7737

Conference presentations

2019	The 5th Conference on Cereal Biotechnology and Breeding (CBB) – "Characterization of Georgian Soft Wheat Germplasm Diversity". November 4-7, 2019, Budapest, Hungary
2019	International Conference on Plant, Cellular & Molecular Biology – Plant – 2019. "Revelation of the role of glucosinolates in plant defense responses against pollution stress. February 18 - 20, 2019, Valencia, Spain
2019	The XIII International Scientific and Practical Conference - International Trends in Science and Technology "Wild ancestors of Georgian wheat and their genomic evolution". May 31, 2019, Warsaw, Poland
2018	2nd ISSS Workshop on Seed Longevity "Study of Naturally Aged Seeds Germination Ability and Antioxidant Enzyme Activity as a Result of Priming" / "Characterization of Unique Georgian Plant Genetic Resources" July 30 - Aug 1, Fort Collins, CO, USA
2016	Plant InterCluster 2016 Technology and Business Meetings; September 19-20, 2016; Agropolis International, Montpellier, France
2016	ISEB 10th Conference 2016 (International Society for Environmental Biotechnology) "The impact of PAHs on garden cress leaves glucosinolate composition and oxidative potential", June 1-3, Barcelona, Spain

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2015	Seed Longevity Workshop of the International Society for Seed Science (ISSS) 2015 "Changes in maize germination ability and antioxidant enzymes activities during seed natural ageing and as a result of priming. July 5-8, Wernigerode, Germany
2014	International Conference on Food and Biotechnology, ICFB "Identification and quantification of glucosinolates in garden cress, watercress and radish" 11-12 September, Tbilisi, Georgia
2012	EMBO - Viruses of Microbes. Isolation and characterization of bacteriophages specific to Xanthomonas phaseoli and Pseudomonas phaseolicola causing brown spot and angular leaf spot of haricot., July 16-20, Brussels, Belgium
2010	International Conference & Exhibition Batumi – Spring – 2010 "Xanthomonas vesicatoria specific phage for tomato bacterial spot control." May 7-9, Batumi, Georgia
2008	ISC 2008 - 27th International Symposium on Chromatography. Determination of the effect of benzene on glucosinolate pattern of Lepidium sativum leaves by capillary zone electrophoresis, September 21-25, Munster, Germany
2008	4th European BioRemediation Conference. Selection criteria for plants application in phytoremediation technologies. ID022, September 3-6. Chania, Crete, Greece
2005	Third International Conference on Plants and Environmental Pollution (ICPEP - 3). Plant response on aromatic hydrocarbons penetration, 29 November-2 December, Lucknow, India
2000	Biotechnology 2000. The World Congress on Biotechnology, 11th International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition, ICC-Berlin. Preparation of valuable food protein and amino acid mixtures from soybean, ICC-Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Languages

Georgian	Native
English	C1
Russian	C1