



Join Us for the September WG2 Webinar!

Friday 25/09/2026 12h00 (CET)

"WG2 seminar room"

link: <https://conectaha.csic.es/b/raf-k1s-mpl-lea>



Prof. Uta Paszkowski

University of Cambridge (*United Kingdom*)



Research interests:

Molecular regulation of arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis in cereals

1. Molecular basis of arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis

Investigation of the genetic, cellular and signalling mechanisms that govern fungal colonization and the functioning of this beneficial association.

2. Nutritional control of symbiotic competence

Study of how plant nutrient status and nutritional demand regulate the establishment and maintenance of arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis.

3. Cereal models for symbiosis research

Use of molecular genetics in rice and maize to identify mechanisms relevant to mycorrhizal associations in major crops.

4. Engineering symbiotic crop nutrition

Application of mechanistic knowledge to promote sustained fungal colonization and improve crop nutrition and agricultural sustainability.



Dr. Juan Antonio López-Ráez

Estación Experimental del Zaidín (*Spain*)



Research interests:

Mycorrhizal symbiosis establishment and plant stress responses

1. Pre-symbiotic plant-AM fungal communication

Study of the chemical signals and molecular mechanisms controlling the establishment of arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis.

2. Nutritional regulation of symbiosis

Investigation of how plant phosphorus and nitrogen status influence plant-AM fungus communication and symbiotic establishment. Development of new signaling molecules promoting symbiosis

3. Experimental and omics approaches

Use of tomato and other plant models in greenhouse experiments and field trials, supported by transcriptomic and metabolomic analyses.

4. Mycorrhiza-induced defence priming

Study of how arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis activates plant defence responses and increases resistance or tolerance to diseases and pests.