



Prof. Dr. Dragan Perović

Prof. Dr. Dragan Perović (born in 1966 in Nikšić, Montenegro) is an internationally recognized expert in plant genetics, plant breeding, and resistance breeding, with a strong focus on molecular genetics and comparative genomics. He obtained his BSc degree from the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade in 1991, his MSc in 1996, and his PhD in 1999 at the same institution.

Since June 2017, he has been leading the Molecular Genetics and Comparative Genomics research group at the Julius Kühn Institute (JKI), Institute for Resistance Research and Stress Tolerance, in Quedlinburg, Germany. Previously, he was a Postgraduate Research Fellow at the Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK-Gatersleben) with a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) fellowship (1998–1999), followed by a Postdoctoral Fellowship at IPK-Gatersleben (1999–2004). He then worked as a Senior Scientist at the Federal Centre for Breeding Research on Cultivated Plants, Institute of Epidemiology and Resistance Resources (BAZ), Aschersleben, Germany (2005–2007). Earlier in his career, he served as a Research Breeder of barley and oat at the Center for Small Grains in Kragujevac (1996–1998) and as a Research Associate at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade (Zemun), Serbia. Prof. Perović has more than 30 years of research experience and has made significant contributions to resistance breeding, gene mapping, and the application of molecular markers in plant selection. He is the author or co-author of over 280 scientific publications, including 89 SCI/Scopus-indexed research articles, 7 book chapters, and 3 scientific protocols. His work has been cited more than 3,800 times, with an h-index of up to 31 (Google Scholar), placing him among the most cited researchers in his field. He has also contributed to the development of new cultivars as a co-author of three registered varieties: barley “Šampion”, barley “Rekord”, and wheat “Olimpia”, recognized by authorities in Serbia. In teaching, Prof. Perović is a Professor of Genetics and Plant Breeding at Educons University in Novi Sad, Serbia, and has been a Visiting Lecturer at Humboldt University in Berlin since 2024. He has taught graduate-level courses in Plant Genetics, Resistance Breeding, and Plant Breeding, and has mentored 12 postdoctoral researchers, 5 MSc students, 4 graduate students, 4 undergraduate students, and 5 visiting scientists. He is actively involved in international research projects and scientific evaluation. To date, he has participated as a principal investigator or key researcher in projects with a total value of approximately €6 million. He has served as a reviewer for the European Commission (Horizon 2020) and for national funding agencies in Israel, the Czech Republic, Serbia, and Bulgaria.

Prof. Perović is also an editor for several international journals, including PLOS ONE, The Crop Journal, Journal of Integrative Agriculture, Genetika (Belgrade), Frontiers in Plant Science, and Agronomy. As a reviewer, he has collaborated with many leading international journals in the fields of genomics, plant breeding, and biotechnology, including: Nature, Nature Genetics, Nature Plants, Theoretical and Applied Genetics, Molecular Breeding, BMC Genetics, BMC Genomics, Euphytica, Journal of Applied Genetics, Functional & Integrative Genomics, Crop Science, Scientific Reports, PLOS ONE, Breeding Science, Briefings in Functional Genomics, and Molecular Biotechnology. Prof. Perović is a member of the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Republika Srpska (ANURS) and of the International Academy of Sciences and Arts (MIANU). His current research focuses on understanding the genetic mechanisms of plant resistance to diseases and stress, developing sustainable breeding strategies, and improving agricultural production under climate change conditions.