



**Prof. Dr. YALÇIN KAYA**

He graduated from Uludag University Field Crops Dept. in 1987 then started to work in Turkish Agriculture Ministry in 1990. In 1994, He appointed to Trakya Agricultural Research Institute and worked sunflower breeder and National Sunflower Project leader and Research Coordinator and Inst. Deputy Director. He completed M Sc in University of Nebraska-Lincoln, US in 1996-98, and Ph D in Trakya University in 1999-2001 on sunflower breeding, then Post Doc on sunflower molecular breeding in USDA Sunflower Unit, Fargo, ND in 2004. He became Assoc Prof in 2011. He appointed to Trakya University in 2014 as Professor in Genetics & Bioengineering Dept head and Plant Breeding Research Center director. At national level, he was founder and former President of Turkish Plant Breeders Assoc. and Turkish Plant Breeders Union President in 2014-16. At International level, he is former president of International Sunflower Association. He has attended many meetings as invited speakers and published over 350 papers. He was honored as Doctorate of Honoris Causa in 2014. He awarded Pustovoit Award in 2022 by International Sunflower Association, Paris, France. For national level, He was nominated as - The Best Agronomist in Turkey in 2012, The Best Academician in 2016, 2017, 2018, The Best Plant Breeder in Turkey in 2017, The Best Scientific Award in Turkey, 2023.

Research Interests: Sunflower, Oilseeds, Plant Breeding, Hybrid breeding, Genetic engineering, Biometry, Agronomy, Plant Production, Seed Science.