

#### Welcome

We welcome you to the conference **Ecology of Soil Microorganisms** to be held in spring 2011 in Prague. The conference is planned as an interdisciplinary platform where data from different experts can be linked and new strategies for further research topics can be defined. This includes questions addressing microbial communities and (meta)genomes in soils and their role in soil quality and soil health. An important link will be made to metaproteomics and particularly enzymology, which is crucial to unravel what the measured rates of microbial processes tell us about the cycling of elements and organic matter as a whole. Another issue of the conference will be dedicated to mycology, which is still underrepresented in microbial ecology, despite the tremendous importance of fungi in all terrestrial ecosystems. Overall the conference should help to build up a conceptual framework that incorporates not only the diversity of microorganisms, but also their functions and properties of their abiotic environments. Our aim is to bring experts from all these disciplines to a meeting where all can benefit from interaction. The meeting in spring 2011 in Prague will be therefore a good opportunity to take the next step into the future of microbial ecology where complex understanding of microbial processes will follow the complex understanding of microbial biodiversity.

#### **Scientific Topics / Sessions**

- Microbial Nutrient Cycling and Biogeochemistry
- Soil Organic Matter Decomposition and Enzymes in the Soil Environment: From molecules to communities
- Fungi in the Soil Microbial Community: Symbioses, Competition, Antagonism
- Interaction among Micro- and Macroorganisms in Soils
- Microbes in the Changing Environment: Global Climate Change and Soils under Human Impact
- Agricultural Soils: Biodiversity and Functioning
- Microbial Diversity and Processes in Forest Soils
- Microbial Biodegradation Processes
- Methods in Soil Microbial Ecology: Challenges and Limitations

#### **Invited speakers**

Christa Schleper (Austria) keynote: "Ammonia oxidizing archaea in soils: New discovery of an old group", Jan Dirk van Elsas, (The Netherlands) keynote: "Soil fungi provide hospitable niches for soil bacteria - mechanisms and concepts", Erland Baath (Sweden), Petr Baldrian (Czech Republic), Lynne Boddy (United Kingdom), Tomáš Cajthaml (Czech Republic), Dana Elhottová (Czech Republic), Marta Goberna (Spain), Martin Hofrichter (Germany), Heribert Insam (Austria), Matthias Kästner (Germany), George Kowalchuk (The Netherlands), Bjorn Lindahl (Sweden), Paolo Nannipieri (Italy), Laurent Philippot (France), James I. Prosser (United Kingdom), Kathrin Riedel (Germany), Giancarlo Renella (Italy), Michael Schloter (Germany), Heike Schmitt (The Netherlands), Marc-André Selosse (France), Angela Sessitsch (Austria), Kornelia Smalla (Germany), Soren Sorensen (Denmark), Christoph Tebbe (Germany), Tim Urich (Austria), Hakan Wallander (Sweden), Matt Wallenstein (USA), Elizabeth Wellington (United Kingdom), Donald Zak (USA), Martin Zobel (Estonia)

## **Scientific Committee**

Petr Baldrian (Czech Republic), Lynne Boddy (United Kingdom), Dana Elhottová (Czech Republic), Jan Dirk van Elsas (The Netherlands), Martin Hofrichter (Germany), Heribert Insam (Austria), Paolo Nannipieri (Italy), Michael Schloter (Germany)

# Local Organizing Committee

Petr Baldrian (Institute of Microbiology, Prague) - head Tomáš Cajthaml, Alica Chroňáková, Dana Elhottová, Jiří Gabriel, Milan Gryndler, Václav Krištůfek, Markéta Marečková, František Nerud, Martin Pospíšek, Hana Šantrůčková, Miloslav Šimek, Vendula Valášková

## **Information and Contact**

http://www.soilmicrobes.org

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# **Important Dates**

Registration opens		October 1, 2010	
Abstract submission, Young Scientist Grants Application, thematic issue submission		December 5, 2010	
Paper acceptance acknowledgement		December 15, 2010	
Selection of contributed oral presentations		January 10, 2011	
Early bird registration deadline		January 25, 2011	
Final programme announcement		March, 2011	
Conference		April 27-May 1, 2011	
Wednesday, April 27, 2011 Thursday, April 28, 2011	Registration, Conference opening, Keynote Lecture, Welcome Reception Sessions, Poster Session 1		
Friday, April 29, 2011	Sessions, Excursion, Poster Session 2, Gala Dinner		
Saturday, April 30, 2011	Sessions, Poster Session 3		
Sunday, May 1, 2011	Sessions, Keynote Lecture, Closing		

#### Venue

The conference will be held in Prague, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, at the end of April 2011, when it is hard for tourists to choose between visiting the hundreds of historical attractions and the parks full of blossoming trees. The history of science in Prague goes back to the Middle Ages. In 1348, the oldest university in Central Europe, Charles University was founded in Prague. The meeting will take place in Top Hotel Praha (www.tophotel.cz/en).

## **Abstract Submission**

Abstract submission is due December 5, 2010 through the conference website. Each conference participant can offer one abstract to be considered for oral or poster presentation.

## FEMS Microbiology Ecology thematic issue

FEMS Microbiology Ecology will publish a thematic issue "Ecology of Soil Microorganisms" in association with the conference with Petr Baldrian, Michael Schloter and James I. Prosser as guest editors. The special issue will combine review articles on the state-of-the-art of soil microbial ecology with original research papers presented at the conference.

# Registration

To promote the interaction among soil microbial ecologists, there will be no parallel sessions. As a consequence, participation is limited to 450 people. Early registration is thus encouraged. Conference fee will cover participation at all sessions, conference materials (programme and book of abstracts), lunches and coffee/tea during the conference, and the welcome reception. Registration, excursions and the gala dinner can be booked through the conference website.

	until January 25, 2011	Later	On site
Delegate	400 EUR	500 EUR	600 EUR
Student	260 EUR	340 EUR	420 EUR

#### **Young Scientist Grants**

Grants and bursaries to support the participation of young scientists (<36 years) will be provided by the Federation of European Microbiological Societies, the Enzymes in the Environment NSF Research Coordination Network and by the British Mycological Society. The deadline for application is December 5, 2010. Please see conference webpage for details.

## **Accommodation, Social Events**

Please see the conference webpage for details.

# http://www.soilmicrobes.org





British Mycological Society promoting fungal science

