

# High Profile Meeting of Experts and Hybrid Seminar to Celebrate the Quinoa National Day (JNQ 2021) in Tunisia



JNQ 2021

الجمهورية  
التونسية



وزارة التعليم العالي  
والبحوث العلمي



ANPR

Agence Nationale de la Promotion  
de la Recherche scientifique



نزرع للغد

ICBA  
AGRICULTURE FOR TOMORROW

Date: 29 July 2021

Venue: City of Sciences, Tunis Tunisia

## Highlights

The consequences of the ongoing global climate change for plant growth and crop productivity are an important research area for crop science in order to maintain future food security. Under such scenarios, developing new crop varieties that are both tolerant to extended periods of drought and heavy rainfall is tremendously challenging in order to meet the world food demand and the sustainable development goals. It therefore will be necessary not only to increase the current food production, but also to provide adequate food. Both farmers and scientists need to adapt agriculture to changing climatic conditions and dietary needs by optimizing growth conditions and cultivating suitable crops naturally resilient to abiotic stresses such as drought and salinity.

One strategy is the introduction of drought-tolerant halophytes like Quinoa. This pseudo cereal has the potential to be a climate-change-resilient with high nutritional contents. Because of its high nutritional quality and ability to grow under marginal environments, quinoa was recognized by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as one of the crops that will play an important role in ensuring future food security.

The Centre of Biotechnology of Borj Cédria (CBBC) in collaboration with the National Agency for Scientific Research Promotion (ANPR), the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) and the several Tunisian societal stakeholders, are developing some research programs to promote quinoa cultivation and valorization and to establish multi-purpose quinoa varieties better adapted to saline, and/or marginal soils, resilient to climate change.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> National Day of Quinoa (JNQ2021) will show the current situation of quinoa cultivation in Tunisia, suggest novel business ideas or spin-offs that facilitate or improve quinoa value chains or services. A special attention is given to empower young entrepreneurs (Students, Masters, Phd, Post-Doc) for small business opportunities and start-ups implementation.

The “High Profile Meeting of Experts and Hybrid Seminar to Celebrate the Quinoa National Day in Tunisia ” will be conducted in person for some of experts and key players of quinoa in Tunisia, and will be attended through web by other audiences and interested persons.

## Organizers

Centre of Biotechnology of Borj  
Cédria (CBBC), Tunisia

National Agency for Scientific  
Research Promotion (ANPR), Tunisia

International Center for Biosaline  
Agriculture (ICBA), Dubai, United  
Arab Emirates

## Contact

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## Agenda

- 08:30-09:00 Reception of guests and registration
- 09:00-09:45 Opening ceremony and welcome speeches
- **Pr. Chedly ABDELly**, Director General of ANPR
  - **Dr. Arafet MANAA**, Quinoa Project Coordinator, Tunisia (CBBC)
  - **Mr. Néji BEN ABDALLAH**, Director of SMBSA-ELIZDIHAR-Hazeg
  - **Pr. Ridha MHAMDI**, General Director of CBBC
  - **Dr. Tarifa Al Zaabi**, Acting Director General of ICBA
  - **Pr. Oifa BEN OUDA**, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- 09:45-10:15 *Introducing international youth initiative – ICBA YES*, **Dr. Tarifa Al Zaabi**, Acting Director General, ICBA
- 10:15-10:45 Coffee break + Posters session
- 10:45-11:45 **Session 1: Quinoa research locally and globally**  
Moderator: **Dr. Ahmed DEBEZ**
- Quinoa research in Tunisia and potential collaboration*, **Prof. Chedly ABDELly**, Director General, ANPR
- Overview of ICBA regional research with special focus on quinoa*, **Dr. Charbel Tarraf**, Senior Manager-Corporate Services and Development, ICBA
- Quinoa and food security (superfood)*, **Dr. Henda MAHMOUDI**, Plant Physiologist, ICBA
- Role of the cooperative for the promotion of quinoa and scaling up in Tunisia*, **Pr. Mongi BEN HARIZ**, Pediatrician and President of the Tunisian Association of the Maladie Coeliaque in Tunisia
- Opportunities for the development of the quinoa value chain in Tunisia*, **Dr. Arafet MANAA**, Associate professor, CBBC
- 11:45-12:45 **Session 2: Success stories of quinoa in Tunisia**  
Moderators: **Dr. Arafet MANAA**, **Dr. Henda MAHMOUDI**
- Status of quinoa cultivation in Tunisia*, **Dr. Hatem BEN JOUIRA** (CBBC)
- Quinoa in southern Tunisia (Hazeg-SFAX)*, **Mr. Bahri SELMI**
- Quinoa in central Tunisia, (Chorbane-Mahdia)*, **Mr. Mohsen GHARSALLAH**
- Quinoa in northern Tunisia, (Soliman, Nabeul)*, **Mr. Mohamed NAGAZZI**
- Quinoa in CapBon (Korba, Nabeul)*, **Mr. Mourad RAMOUL**
- 12:45-13:00 **Honoring of pioneer farmer in quinoa cultivation & distribution of Certificates**
- 13:00-14:00 **Tasting of Quinoa products**
- Display and tasting of Traditional Tunisian dishes using quinoa, various homemade recipes, offered by the young Chef **Aymen CHAABANI** of the company "LUXE **GLUTEN-FREE**"

### Organization committee

Dr. Arafet MANAA  
Dr. Henda MAHMOUDI  
Dr. Hatem BEN JOUIRA  
Dr. Rahma GOUSSI  
Mr. Ghazi Jawad AL JABRI  
Mr. Aymen CHAABANI  
Mme Malek SMIDA  
Mme Najoua Aouichi

