

PlantLink News-September 2018

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PlantLink Newsletter September 2018

Summer is drawing to an end, and it is time for PlantLink to resume its newsletter!

This month's news include a number of items, such as two interesting kick-off receptions, a number of PhD courses and more!

Contents

1. Last chance to register for PlantLink Day 12 September
2. NordPlant kick-off, and travel grants, 24-25 October
3. Subscribe to the new NordPlant mailing-list!
4. Deadline for PlantLink Seedmoney 10 September
5. Plant Biologicals Network Kick Off Reception,
6. PhD courses: Applied methods in crop physiology, Electron Microscopy for Life Scientists, Advanced Plant Microbe Interactions, PhD courses in Image processing, Urban Ecology
7. ELLS MSc student conference
8. Nordic Plant Phenotyping Network's 4th annual workshop
9. PhD-position in plant molecular biology at Lund University
10. Summary of "Promoting Plant research in Sweden"
11. EPA webinar on Nagoya protocol
12. PlantLink's director writes in IBM blog
13. Plants on Surtsey
14. New appointed Postdocs
15. Upcoming meetings and events

1. Last chance to register for PlantLink Day 12 September

The next PlantLink Day will be in the afternoon of 12 September in Lund starting with lunch at 12:00. The venue is the Blue hall at the Ecology Building, Lund. The two themes are Plant phenotyping and Plant, People and Society. Invited speakers are Sebastien Carpentier from KU Leuven and Kristian Thorup from University of Copenhagen. Lars Eklundh at LU will present his work on remote sensing, Johanna Alkan Olsson, also LU, will talk about Urban Nature and Dawn Sanders will present the new journal Plants, People, Planet. [To participate register here!](#)

2. Welcome to the NordPlant kick-off 24-25 October in Helsinki!

The aim of NordPlant is to create a climate and plant phenomics hub for sustainable agriculture and forest production in future Nordic climates. The Nordic University hub NordPlant is supported by NordForsk and was formed in the beginning of 2018 by five Nordic universities: University of Copenhagen, Helsinki University, University of Tromsø, Lund University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. The consortium will promote education, research mobility and technological development to meet future challenges in agriculture and forestry.

We invite you to join the NordPlant kick-off 24-25 October in Helsinki, Finland. This is a chance to meet Nordic researchers in the research area and listen to invited speakers Uli Schurr (Forschungszentrum Jülich), Lukas Spichal (UPOL), Markku Keinänen (University of Eastern Finland), Baoru Yang (University of Turku) and Morten Lillemo (NMBU) as well as NordPlant country representatives. There will be a workshop on future expectations on NordPlant and need for the area.

Registration, application for PhD/Post doc travel grants (deadline 10 September) and program can be found [here](#)

More information on NordPlant at www.nordplant.org.

3. NordPlant mailing list!

Speaking of NordPlant, there is now a new mailing list in the making for updates about everything NordPlant. If you wish to receive updates about NordPlant (4-5 times a year), then head over here to subscribe: <http://eepurl.com/dFjFyj>

4. Deadline for PlantLink Seedmoney on 10 September!

For the fifth time PlantLink announces funds for seed money projects. Apply for up to SEK500,000. Read more on how to apply [here](#).

5. Plant Biologicals Network Kick Off Reception

The Plant Biologicals Network has been formed by several key players in Southern Scandinavia with the purpose of creating awareness on plant biologicals as well as facilitating knowledge exchange on research, innovation, regulation, and education.

Sounds interesting? Well, there will be a launch reception for the network on the 5th of September 15:00 - 16:30 in the foyer of the Copenhagen Plant Science Centre. There will be speakers, drinks and snacks!

For more info, please visit the following sites:

- <https://www.slu.se/en/ew-calendar/2018/9/kick-off-pbn/>
- <http://plantbiologicals.dk/>

6. PhD courses!

There are several PhD courses relevant to plant science right now!

Applied methods in crop physiology at Aarhus University in November 2018.

[More information](#)

Electron Microscopy for Life Scientists, 5 November – 30 November, 2018 More information [here](#)

Advanced Plant Microbe Interactions at University of Copenhagen: More information [here](#)

Three PhD-courses dealing with image analysis and electron microscopy run by the Advanced Microscopy Research Environment at Lund University ADMIRE (www.admire.lu.se):

Introductory level course in processing and analysis of research imaging data, September 17-19: 1 credit:

A very basic course to understand the properties of digital images, how they are created and stored and how different image formats can be handled. No previous background knowledge is needed for this course.

Course responsible: Peter Magnusson, peter.magnusson@sljsu.lu.se

Image analysis for microscopy using ImageJ, 2 days /week (week 43 & 45-50, 22/10 to 12/12):, 7.5 credits:

The very popular course on how to analyze microscopy images using Image J that was given in 2016 will be given again this fall. A prerequisite for this course is a basic understanding of digital images. If you do not have this, it will be a good idea to take the above 1 credit course before you take this course.

Course responsible: Peter Magnusson, peter.magnusson@sljsu.lu.se

Electron microscopy for life scientists, November 5-30, 4.5 credits:

This is a practical course on electron microscopy, focusing on microscopy for life scientists, where you will learn how to prepare and image your samples with both scanning electron microscopy and transmission electron microscopy. No previous background knowledge is needed for this course, but note that the maximum number of participants is 8 people so don't wait too long to sign up.

More course info: <https://www.biology.lu.se/education/phd-studies/phd-courses/electron-microscopy-for-life-scientists>

Course responsible: Ola Gustafsson, ola.gustafsson@biol.lu.se

PhD-course in urban Ecology, 24 September – 3 October, 2018, 3 ECTS:

The objective of this course is to learn more about ecological theories and concepts of relevance for urban areas. The course consists of two modules: a theoretical module with lectures, seminars and exercises (including a written assignment), held in **Uppsala 24-28 September and October 2-3**, and an excursion to **Örebro October 1st**.

For more detailed information contact the course organizers Marcus Hedblom (marcus.hedblom@slu.se) and Erik Öckinger (erik.ockinger@slu.se), Dept of Ecology, SLU.

Application: Send an e-mail to the course organizer Marcus Hedblom at marcus.hedblom@slu.se no later than 7 September

7. ELLS student conference in Wageningen 9 - 10 November

More information on ELLS (Euroleague for Life Science) annual MSc student conference [here](#).

8. Registration open for NPPN's 4th annual workshop November 22-23, 2018 - Rungstedgaard, Denmark

The 4th NPPN workshop will take place on Nov 22-23 at Rungstedgaard, just outside of Copenhagen. The final programme will be published on this site, prior to the workshop. The registration deadline is October 19th. Register for the workshop [here](#).

9. PlantLink's director writes post in IBM blog

You may have heard of the Irish potato famine in the 1800s, but do you know what caused it? Late blight, which can affect both potatoes and tomatoes, is one of the most common and devastating diseases in agriculture. Read more about late blight and the EnBlightMe project [here](#)

10. PhD-position with Olivier van Aken

A PhD position in plant molecular biology is available on identifying components that lead to activation of mitochondrial retrograde signalling in plants:

One of the major challenges for plant productivity is balancing survival under stress conditions with the investment of resources into growth and reproduction. The role of plant mitochondria and chloroplasts has been recognised as pivotal not only in growth permissive conditions, but also under a variety of stresses, ranging from water to pathogen attack. Furthermore, the energy organelles are considered to be more than just targets of stress-induced damage, but are thought to be part of the first signalling steps that launch an efficient stress response. Plant mitochondria and chloroplasts are able to signal their functional status to the nucleus, a process termed retrograde signalling. These retrograde signals alter nuclear gene expression of organellar proteins and importantly, also of many other proteins functioning in hormone metabolism and transport. Together these signalling events can enhance plant survival. However, the nature of the signals and how they are transmitted is only beginning to be understood. Recently several breakthroughs were made by the identification of transcription factors that can activate or repress transcriptional responses to mitochondrial or chloroplast dysfunction.

More information can be found here:

<https://lu.mynetworkglobal.com/en/what:job/jobID:221813/type:job/where:4/>

apply:1

11. Read our summary of the “Promoting Plant research in Sweden”-workshop published in Journal of the Swedish Seed Association

On 15-16 March 2018, more than 60 plant researchers gathered in Lund for a lunch-to-lunch meeting on the future plant research in Sweden, organized by the Scandinavian Plant Physiology Association (SPPS) and PlantLink. The Director for PlantLink, Erik Alexandersson introduced the meeting and welcomed participants from both academia and the industry. Presentations were given on three themes: New Swedish plant research initiatives, Swedish plant research in an inter-national perspective, and Outreach and how to build a strong network. The meeting ended with an active discussion led by SPPS President Stefan Jansson on the possibility of establishing Swedish Plant Biology days.

Read the full summary [here \[PDF\]](#)

12. The Swedish EPA organizes a webinar on the Nagoya protocol and genetic resources on 4 September.

Apply here before 3 September to receive information on how to log in: nagoya@naturvardsverket.se

13. Plants on Surtsey!

Listen to the radio interview with PlantLink PhD representative Gróa Valgerður Ingimundardóttir: [Mossor på framfart på Surtsey](#) (in Swedish)

14. Two new “Plant” Postdocs at Lund University

Read more about [Karin Gross](#) in Magne Friberg’s group and [Tobias Bölscher](#) in Per Persson’s group.

15. Upcoming meetings and events

Please see [PlantLink’s](#), [Department of Plant Breeding SLU Alnarp](#), the [Biology Department at LU calendar](#) and [Copenhagen Plant Science Centre](#) calendars for upcoming meetings.



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