

2005 Ph.D. in Life Sciences - Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Burgundy, France.  
PhD thesis: "Mechanisms of activation of grapevine defense responses by the endopolygalacturonase 1 of *Botrytis cinerea*".

2004 Master Degree in Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Burgundy, France.  
M.Sc. thesis: "The endopolygalacturonase 1 of *Botrytis cinerea* is an elicitor of grapevine defense responses".  
University of Burgundy, Dijon, France.

#### **PREVIOUS POSITIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

March 2012 – February 2017

Temporary Professor Assistant, Plant Pathology, University of Verona, Italy.

February 2006 - February 2012

Post-doctoral fellowship, Genetic Biotechnology University of Verona, Italy

#### **RESEARCH MAIN TOPICS**

The past and actual research activities of E.V. are focused on the study of plant defence mechanisms at molecular level on both cultured (grapevine, kiwifruit) and model (*Arabidopsis*, tobacco) plants. In this context, E.V. has conducted researches aiming at the identification and the characterization of an elicitor from *Botrytis cinera* able to induce defence responses in grapevine cells, decrypting the signalling pathways triggered by this elicitor using a pharmacological approach.

Her research lines then mainly focused on i) the role of peroxynitrite, formed by the reaction between nitric oxide and superoxide, and peroxynitrite-mediated tyrosine nitration of proteins during the hypersensitive response and ii) the study of cGMP as a key second messenger in nitric oxide-mediated signalling during defence responses.

Currently, E.V. is developing new research lines to study the interaction between Actinidia (kiwifruit) and the causal agent of kiwifruit bacterial canker, *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*, with a particular focus on the interkingdom communication between Psa and its host plant, and deciphering molecular bacteria virulence strategies related to the sensors controlling bacterial *quorum sensing*.