



“PHENOTYPING & GENOTYPING OF ULVA”



1st ANNOUNCEMENT



Kavala



Nea Peramos

The COST Action SeaWheat (<https://seawheatcost.haifa.ac.il/>) invites you to a **4-days Training School**, (For a limiting number of participants) **April 25-28, 2023**, at the **Fisheries Research Institute (ELGO-DIMITRA; www.inale.gr)**, in **Nea Peramos, Kavala, Greece**

Seaweed mariculture is often considered the most environmentally friendly form of aquaculture. Among the different seaweed genera currently cultivated, *Ulva* is likely one of the most suitable candidates for large biomass production in European mariculture. However, not all *Ulva* species and strains have equal commercially exploitable attributes. A careful selection of the strains to be cultivated should be performed, depending upon the final use of the biomass and the geographical location of the farms. State-of-the-art genotyping and phenotyping methodologies provide the tools for such a selection. Hence, they could support the development of innovative approaches to speed up the genetic improvement of economically important traits, and ultimately their integration into breeding programs, which will make European farms more competitive. The purpose of this training school is to provide the participants with the skills required for genotyping and phenotyping *Ulva* strains. Training will include sampling specimens, DNA extraction for Next Generation Sequencing, PCR amplification, CAPS assays, and computer-based analyses using genetic data for genotyping. For phenotyping, participants will be introduced to chlorophyll-a fluorescence and oxygen release analyses, and become introduced to automated phenotyping platforms.

Trainers

(alphabetically):

- **Prof. Olivier De Clerck**, University of Ghent, Belgium
- **Prof. Félix Figueroa**, University of Malaga, Spain
- **Dr. Chryssa Gubili**, ELGO-DIMITRA, Greece
- **Dr. Sotiris Orfanidis**, ELGO-DIMITRA, Greece
- **Dr. Ronan Sulpice**, University of NUI Galway, Ireland

Fourteen (14) participants will be selected by an internal committee and will be funded with a maximum of 980 € (up to 500 € air-ticket; 80 € D.A.-incl. 44 € for hotel) grant per participant.

Registration here up to January 31st, 2023: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOMu5N-w5ohj_exBHgELfjyKGIUS_eXlzGG7TDbIGfKkCvPg/viewform

Eligible participants: Early Career Investigator, SMEs and PhD-students of Network members currently / previously working in seaweed ecology and aquaculture fields.

The meeting is organized locally by: **Dr. Sotiris Orfanidis** (sorfanid@inale.gr), Fisheries Research Institute (ELGO-DIMITRA): (<https://www.google.gr/maps/@40.8559347,24.3156409,84m/data=!3m1!1e3>).



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Information package

1. How to get to the city of Kavala

Arrival by plane

If you arrive at **Thessaloniki Makedonia Airport** (SKG; <https://www.skg-airport.gr/en>), you can take the bus or a taxi to the intercity bus station from where you can take a bus to Kavala. The Makedonia airport is located about 161 km west of Kavala. Car rental is also available at the airport.

If you arrive at **Kavala Airport** (KVA; <https://www.kva-airport.gr/en>), you can take a bus or a taxi to Kavala city. The airport is located about 30 km east of Kavala, near the village of Chrysoupolis. Car rental is also available at the airport.

By regional coach

Interurban "KTEL" buses are by far the most convenient way to travel in Greece, as well as for intra-regional travel. Intercity buses connect all major cities in Greece. The bus station is located in the city center of Kavala, near the harbor (Filikis Eteria St.). There is a frequent bus service from Thessaloniki's bus terminal "Makedonia" to Kavala.

2. How to get from Kavala hotels to the meeting venue

One Mini Bus, rented by the local organizers, will depart from your Hotel to the meeting venue.

3. Accommodation around the meeting venue

Accommodation will be arranged with a Kavala City Hotel, at a fixed price of 44€ (single room, breakfast included and free-Wi-Fi). Further information will be announced after the arrangement is finalized.

4. Information for lunch

There are several lunch options (sandwiches, hamburgers, gyros, seafood, etc.) and cafés with different prices in the town of Nea Peramos. Since the meeting venue is located in a rather remote area, a Mini Bus will transfer the participants to Nea Peramos (5 min) and back.

5. Interesting spots around the meeting venue

<http://tourism.kavala.gov.gr/web/guest/home>

Old Town

The Castle of Kavala is the trademark of the city. The first wall was built in the 5th century to fortify the city of Neapoli. During the centuries, it was rebuilt and expanded several times. Its last rebuild is from the time of Turkish occupation of the city (1.425 AD). You will have a wonderful sea view from there and also a great view over the old town, the port and the new parts of the city of Kavala. Occasionally music events are held there. The entrance fee is about 2€. A simple romantic cafeteria invites you to linger. The City walls, the main part of which was built in the 14th century.

Halil Bey Complex: contains the mosque of Halil Bey, dated at the beginning of the 20th century, an older minaret on the side probably of the 16th century, and a medresse. The mosque is built over the foundation of an early Christian basilica.

House and Museum (built in 1720) and monument of Mohamed Ali. He is the founder of the last Egyptian dynasty. The Imaret, a former Koranic school, built in 1718, now a hotel. Although worth seeing, it is, unfortunately, difficult to get in if you are not a guest of the hotel.



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The Panagia Church

The circular route around the city wall is a worthwhile walk. Beneath the Mohammed Ali equestrian statue starts a path around the city wall. The path leads down to the sea, around the headland of the old town and then branches to the port or back uphill to the old town near Panagia Church.

Architecture of Kavala City

Places to see are:

The white City Hall (Dimarchio) on Kipos Iroon Park in the town center. Nearby is the Tobacco Museum (Philippou Odos Str).

Ag. Nikolas church with Paul Mosaic (Kontouriotou Str). Around the church, there is an old, somewhat run-down neighborhood with many great cafeterias, ouzo drinking places (Ouzeris), restaurants, and small shops. Especially in the evening, it is very attractive and crowded by young people.

Archaeological Museum

The museum contains the following collections:

Collection of Prehistoric items.

Finds from Neapolis, and from Amphipolis.

Municipal Museum

The museum, which is housed in a wonderful neo-classical building of the 19th century, is a monument of itself. Visitors may admire jewelry, costumes and handicrafts, amazing samples of our folk culture. Here is also the Historical Archives of the City, while paintings and sculptures of famous Greek artists are also exhibited here. In a special section are exhibited the creations of the famous Thassian sculptor Polygnotos Vagis (1894-1965).

Ancient city and theatre of Philippi

About 15 km from Kavala direction Drama is the ancient site of Philippi. It was founded around 360 BC and is known by the letters of the Apostle Paul, 49 AD, who taught the Christian religion and who baptized the first European Christian here, named Lydia. You can explore the well-preserved amphitheater (with stunning views is on the plain of Drama and the Pangeon Mountain), the Ancient Market, the prison of the Apostle Paul and the ruins of a church from the early Christian period. Also worthwhile is a visit to the Museum and the ascent to the castle above Philippi. About 1 km away from Philippi, in Lydia is the baptism church with a baptismal font on a creek. From here you have access to a few km away healing "mud-bath" (Lasponera) that helps against painful joints.

Anaktoroupoli at Nea Peramos

This castle is situated on the headland of Vrasidas at Nea Peramos. The only part of the walls have survived the passage of time. It was used as a watchtower of the local port.



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