

Plant Physiology Unit
[Department of Life
Sciences & Systems
Biology](#)
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Curriculum Vitale of Prof. Dr. Massimo Maffei

Biography

Massimo E. Maffei, graduated in Plant Biology in the University of Turin, where he first became assistant professor, then associate professor and, since 2000, professor of plant physiology. He has been the Director of the Doctorate School of Natural Sciences and Innovative Technologies, gathering 10 PhD programs in Science. From 2012 to Feb 2014 he was Vice-Director for Research in the Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology of the University of Turin. Form 2000 to 2006 he was Director of the Department of Plant Biology and Deputy Dean of Faculty of Sciences in the University of Turin. From 2003 to 2006 he was the coordinator of the Ministerial Centre of Excellence for Plant Biosensing. From 1987 to 1988 he moved to Washington State University and worked as a postdoctoral research associate under the direction of Rodney Croteau, studying monoterpene biochemistry in the genus *Mentha*. His current interest is the study of plant interactions with the surrounding environment, early DAMPS signals in plant-biotrophs interaction. Astrobiology is studied by evaluating the plant responses to varying magnetic fields. Metabolomics of plant bioactive compounds and molecular biology of secondary metabolisms are also studied. He is author of more than 200 JCR papers.

Academic Affiliations

- Member of the *Academy of Agriculture of the University of Turin*
- Member of the *Academy of Sciences of the University of Turin*

Other Academic activities

2005-to date TAYLOR & FRANCIS INC, Philadelphia, USA
Editor in Chief of the [Journal of Plant Interactions](#)
▪ Founder of the Journal in 2005

1992-to date TAYLOR & FRANCIS INC, Philadelphia, USA
Editorial Board Member of the [Journal of Essential Oil Research](#)

Courses taught

I currently teach Plant Physiology, Food Science and Astrobiology. My personal interest is to teach topic at the border between academy and industry, where basic science is fundamental for applied science and technology transfer.

Current International Collaborations

Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology – Jena – Germany
Cambridge University, U.K.
Center for Ecological Research, Kyoto University, Japan
Tokyo University of Science, Japan
NIOO, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Research interests *Physiology and molecular biology of secondary plant products, with particular reference to terpenoids and flavonoids.*
Biochemistry, molecular biology, gas-chromatography and mass spectrometry; LC-MS.
Model plants: *Menta piperita*, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Cucumis sativus*, and other medicinal plants

DAMPS in Tritrophic and multitrophic interactions between plants and pathogens/herbivores, with particular reference to early events.
Electrophysiology, confocal laser scanning microscopy, biochemistry, molecular biology.
Model system: *Phaseolus lunatus* – *Spodoptera littoralis*; *Arabidopsis thaliana* – Tomato spotted virus/*Botrytis cinerea*/*Pseudomonas syringae*/*Myzus persicae*/Whiteflies/*Spodoptera littoralis*

Supercritical fluids extraction of bioactive compounds from plants

Astrobiology, with particular reference to stress responses of plants to closed artificial environments.
Effect of magnetic fields on plant growth, Volatile Organic Compounds Analyses. RNASeq analyses
Model system: *Arabidopsis thaliana* –
Magnetic Field Compensation Chamber

Industry/Academia Promoter of Spin-Offs of low environmental impact company focused on research and development of extractive techniques based on Green Chemistry (Cleantech), that use plant matrices as a natural source of high purity bioactive molecules with a high commercial value

Publications Please visit the web page
<https://www.plantphysiology.unito.it/publications>
<https://publons.com/researcher/2365659/massimo-e-maffei/>

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Top Italian Scientists <https://bit.ly/39P5kPI>
ORCID <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6814-2353>

Other Interests **Music:** music composer and player, plays guitar (classic and electric), bass, keyboards, flute. See link:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/2010MAXMUSIC#p/u>
Novels: I published two novels: [Le Stelle fra le Mani](#) and [Destini Incrociati](#)
Sports: Football, Soccer, Volley, Basket.
Photo: landscape and flowers photography.
