

Session I Pitch 4

PISI-net: A network on plant-insect-microbial interactions for the development and utilization of biological functions

Dr. SUGIO Akiko

Institute for Genetics, Environment and Plant Protection, INRAE (France)

INRAE funds its international partnerships to foster new professional relationships among researchers and the creation of collaborations. PISI-Net (Plant Insect Symbiont Interactions Research Network) was proposed by INRAE researchers and formalized in 2022 to promote collaborations between Japanese and French researchers who study plant-insect-microbe interactions at various levels. Field crops are attacked by various insect herbivories that are associated with microbes that can also be plant parasites. Therefore, studies of various plant-insect-microbe interactions can provide important insights for creating means to protect crops without solely relying on pesticides. The network involves three French and four Japanese institutions and more than 20 researchers with wide range of expertise. This network will help to exchange protocols, skills and unpublished data, and to train young researchers.