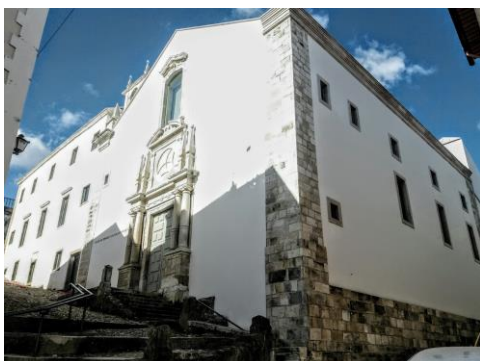




## CopyTree – European Network for Innovative Woody Plant Cloning (Cost Action - CA 21157)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual conference Trees for the future: Cloning and beyond University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal 12-14<sup>th</sup> May 2025



**Venue:** [Colégio da Trindade](#), Travessa da Trindade, 15, 3000-435 Coimbra

**Coordinates:** [40.2068, -8.4255](#)

Organisers: Jorge Canhoto & Sandra Correia

The third conference of [this Cost action](#) will be organized by the Centre for Functional Ecology of the [Department of Life Sciences](#) of the [University of Coimbra](#). During the three day event, recent advances in cloning and other tree biotechnologies will be discussed. Five keynote speakers related with each of the [Working Groups](#) will present an overview of the subject. Poster sessions, meetings and social activities will complete the program. A post conference tour to the Douro valley and to the National park of Gerês is planned for May 15-16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Working groups**

- WG1:** Insights in genetics, epigenetics, and protein networks. New chemical and physical tools that might break recalcitrance. Bio-imaging systems.
- WG2:** Diagnosis of viruses, viroids, and bacteria, sanitation protocols for clean stock production, mid- and long-term storage of clean stocks, and germplasm.
- WG3:** Initiation, multiplication, preservation, germination, and conversion of somatic embryos of new species. Temporary immersion systems. Fully automatic micro-propagation systems combining robotics, laser cutting, machine learning, and artificial intelligence.
- WG4:** Risk assessment of cloning plants, strategy to stimulating technology awareness and acceptance of stakeholders, stimulating investment and commercialization.
- WG5:** Communication, dissemination, and technology transfer.

## Preliminary program

<b>Work Group 1</b>	<b>Work Group 2</b>	<b>Work Group 3</b>	<b>Work Group 4</b>	<b>Work Group 5</b>
<b>Recalcitrance</b>	<b>Sanitation</b>	<b>Automation</b>	<b>Risk &amp; acceptance</b>	<b>Communication</b>

	12 May	13 May	14 May		
08:15	Registration and			08:15	
08:30	installing posters	Desk open	Desk open	08:30	
09:00	Welcome			09:00	
09:15	Keynote speaker WG1 Carmen Díaz-Sala	Keynote speaker WG3 Maurizio Lambardi	Keynote speaker WG2 Ivana Gribaudo	09:15	
09:30				09:30	
09:45		Talk 3.1	Talk 2.1	09:45	
10:00	Talk 1.1	Talk 3.2	Talk 2.2	10:00	
10:15	Talk 1.2	Coffee break and Poster Session	Coffee break and Poster Session	10:15	
10:30	Coffee break			10:30	
10:45				10:45	
11:00	Talk 1.3	Talk 3.3	Talk 2.3	11:00	
11:15	Talk 1.4	Talk 3.4	Talk 2.4	11:15	
11:30	Talk 1.5	Talk 3.5	Talk 2.5	11:30	
11:45	Talk 1.6	Talk 3.6	Talk 2.6	11:45	
12:00	Talk 1.7	Talk 3.7	Talk 2.7	12:00	
12:15	Talk 1.8	Talk 3.8	Talk 2.8	12:15	
12:30	Talk 1.9	Talk 3.9	Talk 2.9	12:30	
12:45	Lunch	Lunch	Closing Talk	12:45	
13:00			Lunch	13:00	
14:15	STSM Session	Keynote speaker WG5 Cristina Marques	MC Meeting	14:15	
14:30				14:30	
14:45		14:45			
15:00	Coffee break and Poster Session	Talk 5.1		15:00	
15:15		Talk 5.2		15:15	
15:30		Coffee break and Poster Session		15:30	
15:45	Keynote speaker WG4 Luís Fontes	Talk 5.3		15:45	
16:00		Talk 5.4		16:00	
16:15	Talk 4.1	WG Meeting (30' Slot 1)		Guided visit University of Coimbra	16:15
16:30	Talk 4.2				16:30
16:45	Talk 4.3		16:45		
17:00	Talk 4.4		17:00		
17:15	Ring test Meeting	WG Meeting (30' Slot 2)	17:15		
17:30		WG Meeting (30' Slot 3)	17:30		
17:45	Welcome reception and visit to the Botanical Garden	WG Meeting (30' Slot 4)	17:45		
18:00			18:00		
18:15			18:15		
18:30			18:30		
18:45			18:45		
19:30		SOCIAL DINNER		19:30	

## **Abstract Submission Guidelines**

The deadline for abstract submission is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Abstracts must be prepared according to the instructions using the registration form that will be available at the CopyTree [web page](#). A submission of a maximum of 2 abstracts per participant is allowed (*see the Abstract template in the last page*).

Abstracts must be written in English, the official language of the event, and are limited to 1500 characters, excepting title, name of authors, affiliation and key words.

All the abstract must be written in Times New Roman (12), 1.5 line spacing, and 2.5 for margins. The title must be in bold (16).

Names and complete addresses of all authors must be indicated, underlining the presenting author. The E-mail address of the presenting author must be also given.

When submitting the abstract, please indicate the working group number that better fits your work as well as the type of abstract presentation (poster/oral)

**Important note 1:** The abstract must be named, **including your name and surname**.

**Important note 2:** The abstract must be submitted only as a **Word document**. No other formats will be accepted.

**Important note 3:** If the first author and co-authors are all registering for the conference, the abstract should be uploaded only **once** by the first author. Co-authors must register separately but do not need to upload the abstract. Instead, they should:

- **Click** ‘Upload’ without uploading any document;
- **Confirm** by selecting ‘**I have uploaded...**’;
- **Leave a comment** in the designated box confirming their association with the submitted abstract.

**Important note 4:** MC members who will **only attend** the conference (while active participation through abstract submission is highly recommended) must still complete the registration process. In the registration form, they should:

- **Choose** a Working Group randomly in the registration form;
- **Click** ‘Upload’ without uploading any document;
- **Confirm** by selecting ‘**I have uploaded...**’;
- **Leave a comment** in the designated box confirming that they have **not submitted an abstract** and will attend as a participant only

## **Proceedings book**

There is the possibility to publish a Proceedings book of the works presented at the conference. In the registration form there will be included a simple question if you are interested to publish your work as a 5 - 6 pages full paper. The decision will be taken after evaluating the answers. If at least 25 participants will send a full paper, the proceedings book indexed by an ISBN number will be prepared. Additional information will be given later.

## **Conference fee and reimbursement**

**The conference is fee-free for all registered participants.** The long-distance travel expenses and the daily allowances at the rate of €150 will be reimbursed according to COST rules to:

- Core Group members;
- MC members attending the MC meeting;
- Speakers (keynote speakers and oral presentations selected from the abstracts).

Detailed information about the reimbursement process will be sent to those concerned.

### **General Contact:**

- For issues or additional information related to the Conference Days in Coimbra, Portugal, please contact [jorgecan@uc.pt](mailto:jorgecan@uc.pt); [sandrainc@ci.uc.pt](mailto:sandrainc@ci.uc.pt)
- For technical issues related to the registration form and the abstract upload on the website, please contact [copytree21157@gmail.com](mailto:copytree21157@gmail.com)

### **Accommodation**

There is a wide range of hotels in Coimbra, with prices varying considerably. Generally speaking, most hotels are within a walking distance of the venue. However, some hotels are a little further away and you may need to catch a bus. [Here](#) and [here](#) you can find information about the available offer. Hotels should be booked well in advance as prices increase considerably from mid-May onwards. Furthermore, on May 13<sup>th</sup> the King of Spain and the President of Italy will receive honorary doctorates from the University of Coimbra, which will lead to greater demand.

### **Meals**

There are several canteens in the university area that serve menus at very affordable prices (5-10€). We will try to provide conference participants with access to these canteens. Several restaurants in the area are also available with prices ranging from 10-15€. Vegetarian menus are usually available.

### **Social program**

A conference dinner will be organised, on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The price of this dinner will be paid by the participants and the cost will be around €50 - 60. The restaurant and precise price will be indicated later. A Coimbra fado show is planned during the dinner. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, a reception is planned at the Botanical Garden in the late afternoon with drinks and snacks. On the 14<sup>th</sup> we are planning a visit to the old part of the University, which includes the old library, the University chapel and the old royal palace, an architectural complex that has been a World Heritage Site since 2013 (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1387/>).

### **Travelling**

Coimbra does not have airport but it has good connections with the two main cities of Portugal, Lisboa (Lisbon), the capital, 200 km to the south, and Porto (Oporto), the second largest city, 120 km to the north. Several rapid trains (called alfa) per day connect Coimbra to Lisbon (about 1h 45 min) and Oporto. The price of one-way ticket from Lisbon is around 25 € depending on booking date. From Oporto the price is about 20 € and the travel took 1h. Metro lines connect the [Lisbon](#) and [Oporto](#) airports to the train stations, as well as buses. A taxi from the Lisbon airport to the train station (Gare do Oriente) will cost about 10 € but at

certain time of the day there may be long queues. In these cases it is better to take the taxi at the departure area, in the floor above the arrival area. There are also good connections from Lisbon and Oporto by bus (<https://www.flixbus.co.uk>; <https://rede-expressos.pt/en>), being the prices usually cheaper than by train. [Private companies](#), also offer direct connections between the airports and Coimbra at higher costs.

There are good connections with Spain by motorway but there usually are tolls. Many cities in Spain are within a 4-8 hours drive from Coimbra by car, Madrid included. The main motorway entrances are in Galicia (North), Elvas (East-South), Vilar Formoso (East-North) and Algarve (South) but many other routes are possible.

### **Post-conference tour**

A post-conference excursion is planned for the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of May to visit the [Douro Valley](#) that crosses the vineyards from which the Porto wine is made and the [National Park of Peneda-Gerês](#), near the border with Spain, which is the most important park in Portugal. The idea is to leave Coimbra early morning on May 15<sup>th</sup> to the city of [Peso da Régua](#). There, we will take a boat and go up the Douro to the village of [Pinhão](#) with lunch on board included. We will return by boat to Peso da Régua and visit one of the main wine producing farms in the region. Then we will go to the hotel in Peso da Régua and at 20.00 we will have dinner at the hotel or in one of the city restaurants.

The next day (16<sup>th</sup>) we will leave for Park Peneda-Gerês, where we will take a walk before having lunch at one of the restaurants in the region, close to the [Pedra Bela](#) viewpoint. After lunch we will return to Coimbra, with a short stop at Costa Nova, a beach south of Porto. The estimated arrival time in Coimbra is around 7:30 pm.

The tour will be organised by a travel agency and payments will be made directly to it. The price will depend of the number of people interested and as soon as possible more information will be given.



## **Abstract template**

### **Title**

Leroy Smith<sup>1,2</sup>, Titus Triway<sup>2</sup>, Linda Fierget<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dept. of Knowledge Outreach, Faculty of Science, Mardson University, Slakstraat 344, 6570, Mardson, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>Artificial Intelligence Department, National Brain Museum of Kenya, Nairobi PO Box 44, Kenya

[Linfier@UMard.be](mailto:Linfier@UMard.be)

### **ABSTRACT**

The abstract should be an explicit summary of your research that states the problem, the methods used, and the significant results and conclusions. The abstract should state the study problem you set out to explore and explain the rationale for pursuing the present work. Your abstract should also describe the research methods and how you conducted your research. The abstract should also present the results of the work you have done so far. If your project is incomplete, you may still include preliminary results or your hypotheses about what those results will be. Finally, your abstract should close with a statement of the project's implications and contributions to the research field. Avoid citing sources in your abstract. The abstracts will be reviewed, and authors will be informed about acceptance for presentation via email. Do not use special characters, symbols, or mathematical signs in the title or the abstract. The maximum acceptable number of symbols in the abstract is 1500 (including spaces). Larger abstracts above the symbol limit may not be accepted.

**Keywords:** from 3 to 5 keywords (key concepts in the abstract)