



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences  
"Gheorghe Ionescu Șișești"  
NATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE  
FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY IN HORTICULTURE  
STEFANESTI ARGES  
UNIVERSITY OF PITESTI  
ROMANIA

**PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGIES - PRESENT AND FUTURE  
PROSPECTS GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS IN ROMANIA  
AND THE NATIONAL BIOSAFETY FRAMEWORK**

**February 18-19, 2010**

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Dear colleagues,

The National Research and Development Institute for Biotechnology in Horticulture Stefanesti, and University of Pitesti, in cooperation with the Biotechnology Commission within the Academy for Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, organized between 18 and 19 February 2010 in Pitesti the Conference "PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGIES – PRESENT AND PERSPECTIVES. THE CULTURE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS IN ROMANIA AND THE NATIONAL BIOSAFETY FRAMEWORK". This conference was part of the MAKIS Project "Modernizing Agricultural Knowledge & Information System", Component 3 – Support for agricultural research.

The main topics of the conference were: 1) Biotechnology applied to plants  
2) DNA-based marker technologies; 3) Genetically modified plants – obtainment, detection and use.

This scientific event created the framework in which over a hundred scientists reflected by their presentations the actual status of the Romanian research in the field of plant biotechnology and directions of its development, imposed equally by the need of better knowledge, requirements of the users of biotechnological applications, and short- to medium-term strategies of the European Union regarding biosafety, economic and social development.

During the two days of the conference, highly experienced scientists from research institutes and universities, but also young and devoted researchers and specialists from governmental institutions, presented their results and achievements, and their future goals, as well. Of high interest were the lectures of the invited scientists from Finland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia and Moldavia, with outstanding results and achievements in the field of biotechnology. Moreover, their participation to the conference was giving all the opportunity for debates, exchanging information, sharing opinions, and establishing cooperation relationships. A special attention was paid to the various aspects concerning the introduction and growing genetically modified plants in Europe and Romania, regulations applicable to them, and measures imposed for the implementation of a national control system, based on the use of molecular techniques.

Manuscripts were submitted to review by the Scientific Committee of the Conference. Selected papers were published in special issue of *Romanian Biotechnological Letters* Journal (Thomson Reuters Master Journal List). The book of abstract is compiling the oral and poster communications presented during the Conference.

We were very pleased to welcome you in Pitesti. We hope you enjoyed your participation at our Conference and had an exciting and profitable experience. Finally we wish to express our gratitude to all our invited speakers, lecturers, chairmen and delegates for their active participation at the Conference.

Furthermore, we would like to express our gratitude to all our sponsors for Conference financial support.

**Organizing committee**