



# Investing in Host Plant Resistance and Sustainable Pest Management



## From Resilient Crops to Smart Technologies





**Prof. Sophien Kamoun**  
**The Sainsbury Laboratory**  
**University of East Anglia**

**Plants have an immune system.**

Our job, in this decade, is to wake it up —

**at the scale of a planet, on the timeline of a climate.**

*For centuries, we answered plant health mainly in crisis mode. Now, we finally have the opportunity to plan, prepare, and act proactively against pests and diseases. The next decade will be decisive: we must use progress in applied science, AI, and regulation to address plant health from genes to field inputs, reducing food losses and increasing productivity.*



**Prof. Silvio Salvi**  
**Plant Genetics**  
**University of Bologna**



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SCIENZE E TECNOLOGIE AGRO-ALIMENTARI

*Genome-editing technologies for pest-resistant cultivars are increasingly available. To scale them effectively, we now need clearer and more harmonized rules across countries, stronger public R&D to ensure diversity and broad participation, and greater outreach so end users can fully understand the benefits of this innovation.*



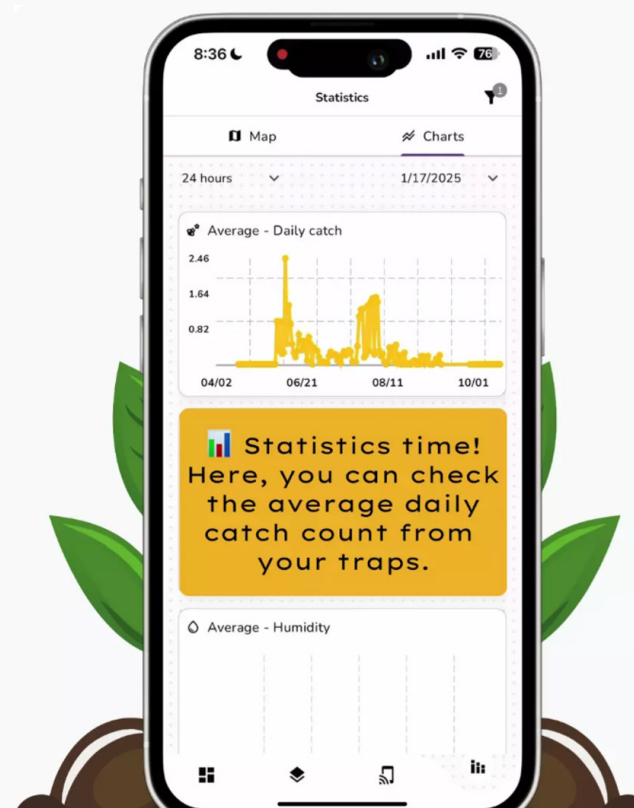
**Dejan Jančić**  
CEO  
Trapview



*Digital insect monitoring is a precision agriculture tool for real-time pest surveillance, tracking insect populations and development stages, generating early warnings, and improving integrated pest management decisions through field data and digital analysis. It supports yield protection, quality assurance, targeted use of inputs, securing cost reduction, and implementation of good agricultural practices.*



**Donát Posta**  
Co-founder and CEO  
Scoutlabs



*Insect monitoring tools are no longer limited by technology - the real challenge now is unit economics and distribution. As these solutions become cost-competitive, adoption will accelerate, especially as pest management moves beyond single-solution approaches toward integrated technological and biological solutions.*

*Host plant resistance and sustainable pest management reduce the overdependency on pesticides, improve yields, and support biodiversity. Together, they align closely with the ambitions of the EBRD Agri Food Strategy.*



**Iride Ceccacci**  
**Head of Corporate Sector Advisory**  
**EBRD**



**Jacopo Monzini**  
**Senior Natural Resources Management Officer**  
**FAO Investment Centre**

*New genomic techniques and digital field technologies are enabling agriculture to shift from reactive to proactive pest management. Resilient varieties, localized use of inputs, and tools such as traps can reduce risk, enable early pest detection, and guide targeted interventions - while also supporting more coordinated landscape-level pest and disease management.*



# Watch the video recording of The E-dialogue on **YouTube**



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EBRD and FAO at  
[www.agtivate.org](http://www.agtivate.org)