



Dr Rita Armonienė is a senior researcher at the Laboratory of Genetics and Physiology of the Institute of Agriculture, Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry. In 2014, she defended her doctoral dissertation “Freezing tolerance in winter wheat: gene identification and analysis”. The main research interests cover plant adaptation to abiotic and biotic stress, gene identification and analysis, identification and validation of genes involved in starch biosynthesis and freezing tolerance using mutagenesis approach, identification of a new source for fungal diseases resistance of wheat by GWAS, development and application of molecular markers to wheat breeding programmes, high-throughput low-cost plant phenotyping tools in cereal breeding. The results of the research are published in high-level international scientific journals, 12 of them in scientific publications indexed in Clarivate Analytics and the database Web of Science. The results of her research were presented at 11 international conferences. Dr Armonienė did a one-year postdoc research project “Identifying novel sources of Septoriatriitici blotch (STB) resistance in winter wheat landraces of Nordic and Baltic origin” at the Department of Plant Breeding at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) with a scholarship of the Swedish Institute. She did research internships at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) in Mexico and at the National Plant Phenotyping Infrastructure (NaPPI) located at the University of Helsinki (Finland). In 2017, she was awarded the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences prize for the best work of young scientists and doctoral students and in 2018 was received the Young Scientist Scholarship of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. Dr Rita Armonienė is the coordinator of the international network “Baltic Sea Region Network for Sustainable Wheat Production (BalticWheat)”.