



Professor Robert Neil Jones

Foreign Member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences since 2008

Professor Emeritus Neil Jones graduated with a degree in agricultural botany from Aberystwyth University (Wales, UK) in July 1963.

Education: Secondary School and Adams Grammar School, Wem; BSc, PhD, DSc, FSB, Plant molecular cytogenetics and Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences; Graduate Student and Indiana University Bloomington

He then spent a year as a teaching assistant under the leadership of Marcus Rhoades in the botany department at Indiana University (USA), where he gained valuable experience and knowledge about the cytogenetics of maize.

Professor N. Jones returned to Aberystwyth, where he completed his PhD (1964–1967) in chromosome genetics, working on B chromosomes and DNA variation in the genus *Allium*. He then took his first job in Queens University Belfast, where he stayed for two years until he returned to Aberystwyth. In Aberystwyth, he progressed to the positions of senior lecturer, professor, professor emeritus and finally dean of the Faculty of Science. He has also served as secretary, senior secretary and vice president of the UK Genetical Society.

He has been an invited speaker at a number of international conferences and has given a series of lectures on the latest topics in genetics at St. Petersburg State University, where he is an honorary professor, at Vilnius University and at the Institute of Plant Genetics in Poznan, Poland, where he was also chair of the International Advisory Board Tallinn University of Biotechnology; Technical University of Lisbon; IPK Gatersleben, Germany; Kyoto University, Japan. N. Jones keeps his office in IBERS at Aberystwyth and continues to publish. He joined *Biological Communications* in late 2014 as section editor for cytogenetics and plant science, and he has recently been invited as lead speaker at the fourth international B chromosome conference in Brazil in July 2019.

Research interests: Molecular cytogenetics of plants: including genome organisation and evolution; supernumerary B chromosome systems and their potential applications; physical mapping of plant chromosomes and introgression breeding for stress tolerance genes; meiosis, meiotic mutants in rye and tracking the early events of homology search.

During his academic career, Neil has published more than 125 research papers and four books. Last several publications:

Evolution, Composition and Regulation of Supernumerary B Chromosomes (Houben, A., Jones, N., Martins, C. & Trifonov, V. A., 2019, In : *Genes*.10, 2, 161).

Transmission and Drive Involving Parasitic B Chromosomes (Jones, R., 2018, In : *Genes*.9, 8, 388).

The Plant Nucleus at War and Peace: Genome Organization in the Interphase Nucleus (Jones, R. N. & Langdon, T., 2013 , *Plant Genome Diversity Volume 2: Physical Structure, Behaviour and Evolution of Plant Genomes*, Greilhuber, J., Dolezel, J. & Wendel, J. F. (eds.). Springer Nature, Vol. 2. p. 13-31).

B chromosomes in plants, (Jones, R. N., 2012, In: *Plant Biosystems*.146, 3, p. 727-73711 p).

Genomic structure and fertility in advanced breeding populations derived from an allotetraploid Festuca pratensis x Lolium perenne cross, (Zwierzykowski, Z., Taciak, M., Kosmala, A., Krajewski, P., Zwierzykowska, E., Zwierzykowski, W., Książczyk, T. & Jones, R. N., 2011, In : *Plant Breeding*.130, 4, p. 476-4805 p).

More publications on the Research Portal.

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