BIOVEXO Final Event – AGENDA

Date: 13 November 2025

Location: Auditorium "G. Boccardi"- I.I.S.S. "Basile Caramia-Gigante" - Via Cisternino, 281 – 70010 – Locorotondo (Ba) – Italy

Language: The event will be held in **English**, with **interpretation into Italian** available for selected sessions.

08:30 – 09:00	**Registration**

Event Moderator: Jean-Paul Judson – Public Affairs & Science Communication Expert, NOWMORE

Time	Topic	Speakers
09:00 – 09:30	**Opening Remarks** • Introduction to the BIOVEXO project and event goals • Acknowledgement of partners and stakeholders • Welcoming remarks	**Stephen Webb** – Chairman, RTDS Group **Stéphane Compant** – Senior Scientist, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology **Franco Nigro** – Director, Centre of Research, Experimentation and Training in Agriculture "Basile Caramia" (CRSFA) **Francesco Di Serio** – Director, CNR Institute for Sustainable Plant Protection **Angelinda Griseta** – Headteacher, I.I.S.S. "Basile Caramia-Gigante"
09:30 – 09:55	**Keynote 1:** *Regulatory update on Xylella fastidiosa and the authorisation of biopesticides in the EU*	**Karin Nienstedt** EU Policy Officer
09:55 – 10:20	**Keynote 2:** *Update on risk assessment for Xylella fastidiosa and links with research.*	**Giuseppe Stancanelli** Plant health risk assessment, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
10:20 – 11:10	**Panel 1:** *Xylella in Europe and Mediterranean: From Risk Assessment to Regional Action and Research Innovation* *(This panel explores the Xylella situation in Europe and Puglia, highlighting research, risk assessment, and regional management strategies.)*	**Donato Boscia** – Research Director ("Dirigente di Ricerca"), National Research Council of Italy (CNR) **Salvatore Infantino** – Head of the Phytosanitary Observatory ("Osservatorio Fitosanitario") of Regione Puglia
11:10 – 11:30	**Coffee Break**	
11:30 – 12:30	**Panel 2:** *From Lab to Field: BIOVEXO's Biopesticide Journey Against Xylella* (Showcasing consortium advances from discovery to deployment in olive and almond crops)	**Stéphane Compant** – Senior Scientist, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology **Pasquale Saldarelli** – Research Scientist, CNR (National Research Council of Italy)

This project has received funding from the Bio Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 887281.

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		Enza Dongiovanni – Researcher, CRSFA "Basile Caramia"
12:30 – 13:30	**Lunch break**	
13:30 – 14:30	**Panel 3**: *Project Synergies: Uniting Efforts Against Pests – Xylella* (Representatives from four major EU-funded initiatives **BIOVEXO, BeXyl, Integroliv** and **OMIBREED** to share experiences, align strategies, and identify synergies in the fight against pests.)	**OMIBREED/ BEXYL - Maria Saponari**, Senior Researcher, IPSP-CNR **INTEGROLIV – Giuseppe Lima,** Full Professor, University of Molise **BIOVEXO - Stéphane Compant**, Senior Scientist, AIT Austrian Institute of Technology
14:30 – 15:30	**Panel 4:** Innovative Strategies for Managing *Xylella fastidiosa*: Advances and Challenges (This panel will delve into the latest developments in the adoption of resistant germplasms in the frame of IPM strategies.)	**Gianni Gilioli** – Research Scientist, University of Brescia **Maria Saponari** – Senior Researcher, CNR (National Research Council of Italy) **Pasquale Saldarelli** – Research Scientist, CNR (National Research Council of Italy)
15:30 – 16:00	**Coffee Break**	
16:00 – 17:00	**Panel 5:** Biopesticides Beyond the Lab: Driving Market Adoption, Regulation and Sustainable Business Models (The panel will explore the path of biopesticides from research to market, focusing on regulatory, production, and adoption challenges, and highlighting key strategies and lessons learned.)	**Andrea Ricci Tadiccini** – Business Director, DOMCA **Robin Ingels** – Product Manager Innovations, GLOBACHEM **Gregor Kosec** – R&D Director, ACIES Bio
17:00 – 17:10	**Closing Remarks**	**Stephen Webb** – Chairman, RTDS Group **Stéphane Compant** – Senior Scientist, AIT Austrian Institute

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