



# XVI SOLANACEAE CONFERENCE

## YIELD & NUTRITION

### Asaph Aharoni - Bio

Asaph Aharoni is a full professor at the Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. He earned his MSC at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and received his PhD degree from Wageningen University, The Netherlands. Asaph performed his postdoctoral studies at the Plant Research International institute in Wageningen. He was from the first to apply DNA microarrays for large-scale gene expression analysis as well as pioneering the field of Metabolomics for comprehensive profiling and non-targeted metabolite analysis. His research interests' center on uncovering the molecular mechanisms underlying the production of plant secondary metabolites (known as natural products). His lab combines cutting-edge metabolomics with molecular genetics and computational biology to study specialized metabolism and its interface with core metabolism in plant development and stress. He has been the former chair of the Israel Society of Mass Spectrometry and a member of the Israel Analytical Chemistry Society's executive committee.

Asaph serves on the editorial board of The Plant Journal, a leading journal in the Plant sciences. He has been the recipient of a number of awards, including; The European Research Council (ERC) grant for starting independent investigators, the James Heineman Research Award for Biological and Biomedical Research, the Weizmann Institute Scientific Council Prize (Levinson Prize in Biology) and the Yigal Alon Fellowship award by the Council for Higher Education in Israel. Asaph recently received the Andre Deloro prize for to a scientist doing particularly exceptional work in his or her field awarded by the Weizmann institute. To date, Asaph published more than 150 research papers and 30 book chapters as well as 20 patent applications. Two new start-up companies 'Metabolic Insights' that provides 'green' solutions for crop plant protection and 'Phytolon' generating natural pigments for the food industry emerged from his lab work in the past year.