



XVI SOLANACEAE CONFERENCE

YIELD & NUTRITION

Michal Lieberman-Lazarovich - Bio

Michal Lieberman-Lazarovich is a research scientist in the Department of Vegetables and Field Crops of the Institute of Plant Sciences at The Volcani Center, ARO. The main goal of her lab is to study the molecular response of crop plants to abiotic stresses, in order to promote the development of resistant crop varieties. Specifically, she aims at elucidating the molecular factors that underlie the response to heat stress in tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*), an important vegetable crop in which high growth temperatures lead to considerable yield loss. Michal is also interested in the involvement of epigenetic factors (mainly DNA 5'-cytosine methylation) in stress responses and their contribution to phenotypic variation and heritability. Her group uses innovative molecular tools for genetic and epigenetic editing to address these intriguing questions.