



Europass Curriculum Vitae



Riccardo Velasco, PhD

*h-index = ISIWeb 36, Scopus 39, Gscholar 47
n. of ISI-Web publications = 124
total impact points = 580*

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Education and training

Dates	1991-1995
Title of qualification awarded	PhD
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Plant molecular biology
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Max Planck Institut - University zu Koeln (Germany)
Level in national or international classification	Top class European research Institutes
Dates	1982-1989
Title of qualification awarded	Degree in Agricultural Science (equivalent to Master degree)
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Agronomy, plant physiology, biochemistry, botany, plant biology, soil chemistry, genetics, molecular biology, zoology, soil microbiology, ecology
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Florence (Italy)

Scientific career

BEFORE FEM-IASMA

(1989-1990)

Diploma student

Desiccation tolerance in maize embryo. Role of abscisic acid.
University of Firenze – Supervisor: Prof. C. Vazzana.

(07/'89-09/'89)

Research Fellowship

Isolation of cold stress resistant barley genes.

Erasmus-EEC fellowship at the Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Köln.
Supervisor Prof. F. Salamini.

- (07/'91-12/'92)** **Research Fellowship**
Tobacco transformation by means of water stress resistant genes.
Fellowship of region of Umbria (Italy) and the EU at the Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Köln. Supervisor Prof. D. Bartels.
- (01/'93-03/'95)** **Research Fellowship**
Characterization of the expression of the desiccation-related gene CDet11-24 isolated from the resurrection plant *Craterostigma plantagineum* Hochst. and analysis of its promoter in transgenic plants.
Max-Planck-Gesellschaft fellowship at the Max-Planck-Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Köln. Supervisor Prof. D. Bartels.
- (09/'94)** **Research Fellowship**
Gatsby Charitable Foundation - John Innes Centre
- (05/'95-06/'97)** **Post-doctoral fellowship**
DFG-project: Characterization of DNA/protein interaction in the Polymerase I System.
University of Tuebingen, chair of Genetics - Supervisor: Prof. V. Hemleben.
- (06/'97-07/'99)** **Post-doctoral fellowship**
Dissection of wax synthetic pathways by transposon tagging.
Universitaet zu Koeln. Supervisor: Prof. F. Salamini.

AT FEM-IASMA

Dates	July 1999 – October 2000
Occupation or position held	Researcher 3° class (R3)
Main activities and responsibilities	Junior research staff
Type of business or sector	Genetics and genomics of grape and apple
Dates	October 2000 – December 2005
Occupation or position held	(till August 2003, researcher of 3° class, after August 2003, of 2° class, R2) Responsible of the Advanced Biology Area, Senior management
Main activities and responsibilities	6 staff – plus post-docs and PhD students (up to 20)
Type of business or sector	Coordination of the largest project at IASMA (3.7 Million of €) Set up of 1,200 m ² of laboratories Molecular breeding programs in grape and apple Development of genomics and bioinformatic platforms
Dates	January 2006 – December 2008
Occupation or position held	Head of the Biology and Molecular Genetics Department
Main activities and responsibilities	45 staff – including post-docs and PhD students
Type of business or sector	Molecular breeding program of grape and apple Bioinformatics Structural and Functional Genomics Grape and apple genome sequencing projects
Dates	January 2009 – today
Occupation or position held	Head of the Genomic and Crops Biology Dept. Director of research (R1)

Main activities and responsibilities	80 staff – including post-docs and PhD students
Type of business or sector	Structural and Comparative Genomics Functional Genomics Molecular Genetics and Breeding
National Habilitation for Academics	BIO13 – Applied Biology (full Professor) AGR07 – Crop Genetics (full Professor)
ANVUR 2011-14	GEV 07 – Member of the VQR Evaluation Panel (Expert Evaluation Group) For Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences

Positions of responsibility and achievements

ASSOCIATE EDITOR	Molecular Genetics and Genomics Plant Molecular Biology Reporter International Journal of Wine Research Frontiers in Crop Science and Horticulture (till 2016) American Journal of Oenology and Viticulture (till 2014) Tree Genetics and Genomes (till 2013)
REVIEWER of JOURNALS (LAST 5 YEARS)	Theoretical and Applied Genetics, Molecular Breeding, Journal of Food Chemistry, Genome, Plant Breeding, Plant Physiology and Biochemistry, BMC Bioinformatics, American Journal of Viticulture and Enology, BMC Biology, Functional and Integrative Genomics, Trends in Genetics, Nature Genetics, Plant Journal
REVIEWER of RESEARCH GRANTS	University of Padova, referee for genetics, genomics and molecular biology of fruit trees; University of Milano, referee for genomics projects in plants; Ministry of Research and University, FIRB and PRIN Actions; Genoplante; KBBE EraNet; Ateneo Italo-Tedesco; Ateneo Italo-Francese; Parco Tecnologico Padano
AWARDS	- Honorable Research Lecturer of the Year 2007, the Grape Genome, The American Society of Enology and Viticulture - Premio Assoenologia 2013, Role of Resveratrol in Grape Defence “Best scientific publications 2010-2012”. - Premio “N. Strampelli” 2013, Società Italiana di Genetica Agraria. - Chair of the Working Group “Molecular Markers in Horticulture” of the International Society of Horticultural Science, ISHS. (2013-today)
MEMBERSHIP	- Co-founder and member of the International Grapevine Genome Program (Davis, CA) - Member of the Board of the Italian Society of Genetics years 2004-2005

Personal skills and competences

Mother language(s)	ITALIAN
Other language(s)	English (excellent), German (very good), French (good), Spanish (scholar)

Teaching and academic roles

UNIVERSITY COURSES	AA 2016-17 University of Verona, Faculty of Biotechnology, lectures on Genomics AA 2015-17 University of Ferrara, Faculty of Biology, lectures on Plant Biotechnology AA 2002-2013 University of Verona, Faculty of Medicine, lectures on Molecular Biology AA 2009-2011 University of Bologna, Faculty of Biology, lectures on Evolutionary Genetics AA 2006-2009 University of Napoli, Faculty of Agriculture, lectures on Crop Genetics AA 2002-2003 University of Trento, Faculty of Informatics, lectures on Molecular Biology
PHD SUPERVISION	Over 20 PhD supervised in career
STUDENT SUPERVISION	Over 30 Master degree supervisions
EXTERNAL EXAMINER EXPERIENCES	Member of evaluation committees for Italian and European Universities Tenure track evaluation for U.S. and UK professorships VQR ANVUR 2011-14, member of evaluation panel GEV 07 (Agriculture)

Research awards and fellowships

Dates	EXTERNAL GRANTS AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (total budget managed between 2000 and 2016: approximately 30 M€)
2016	Progetto CARIPL0 – Ricerca integrata sulle biotecnologie industriali e sulla bioeconomia progetto “GrAptaResistance: a novel strategy based on peptide aptamers to protect grapevines from downy mildew fungal infection”, in collaboration with UNIMI (3 years project, amount required 280 K€) (competitive)
2016	Progetto Euregio – “VITISANA: Dissecting the genetic basis of negative quality traits in new disease resistant grapevines”, in collaboration with Experimental station Laimburg and University of Innsbruck. (3 years project, amount required 320 K€) (competitive)
2015	European Research Project, Marie Skłodowska Curie “Genevabreed - Cloning and functional characterization of a complex resistance locus from ‘Geneva’ to breed apple cultivars with durable scab resistance”. Collaboration between Plant and Food Research (NZ) and FEM. (3 years project, amount required 265 K€) (competitive)
2014	Associated DFG-ANR project “AlternApp: Genetic mechanisms underlying alternate cropping in apple (<i>Malus x domestica</i>)” in collaboration with INRA (coordinator) and 4 other European Institutions. (competitive)
2013	TRANSAPPLE, regional funded project on epigenetics in apple, co-PI with dr. Azeddine SiAmmour (3 years project, amount required 765 K€) (competitive)
2010	KBBE-2010-1-1-01: Fruitbreedomics. Genetic and genomic tools to increase the breeding efficiency in fruit trees: (3 years project, amount requested: 5999 K€) (competitive)
2009	AGER (Bank foundations) 2009: Apple fruit quality in the post-genomic era, from breeding new genotypes to post-harvest: nutrition and health (3 years project, amount requested: IASMA 1006 K€ of 3598 K€) (competitive)
2009	Autonomous Province of Trento and National Institute for Nuclear Physics (2009): “AURORA Project High performance computing for scientific applications.” (18 months, IASMA 110K€ of 1552 K€) (competitive)
2007	Research project “Apple Genome Sequencing” funded by the Province of Trento, in collaboration with Myriad Genetics inc., Salt Lake City, Utah, USA and 454 Life Science, Branford CT USA. (2 years – IASMA 9500 K€)(directly funded)

- 2007 | Research Project “Parallelomics” High parallelism in Genomics and Metabolomics in higher plants, collaboration with ENEA Rome, University of Verona, CRA Fiorenzuola, PTP Lodi. (3 years – IASMA 200 K€ of 1300 K€)(**competitive**)
- 2005 | Research project “Grapevine Genome Sequencing” funded by the Province of Trento, in collaboration with Myriad Genetics inc., Salt Lake City, Utah, USA and 454 Life Science, Branford CT USA. (2 years – IASMA 10500 K€)(**directly funded**)
- 2004-2008 | 6 post-doctoral fellowships funded between 2004 and 2008 funded by the Provincia of Trento (6 x 150 K€)(**competitive**)
- 2003 | Research project “Grapevine Physical mapping”, in collaboration with Università di Udine, Keygene Wageningen, Università di Padova, ERGV Evry Parigi, funded by the Province of Trento. (2 years – IASMA 1500 K€)(**directly funded**)
- 2002 | Ministry of Research and University MURST “Genomics approaches to define biological parameters for grape berry quality”, funded by the Ministry of Research and University (3 years – IASMA 60 K€)(**competitive**)
- 2002 | Research project BAC-co “Analysis of the grape genomic structure towards isolation of relevant genes to improve grape quality “, funded by the Province of Trento. (3 years – IASMA 900 K€)(**competitive**)
- 2001 | Functional genomics in grape (glass microarrays) “Resveratrol” in collaboration with Institute Fraunhofer of Aachen-Schmallenberg, Germany, funded by the Province of Trento and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft. (3 years - IASMA 450 K€)(**competitive**)
- 2000 | Research project „Advanced Biology in grape and apple“, funded by Fondazione Casse di Risparmio di Trento e Rovereto, CARITRO. (5 years – IASMA 3771 K€) (**competitive**)

Invited lecturers and seminars

2017	IV° Horticulture Research (Nature Group) Congress, East Malling, UK
2017	5° Plant Genomes and gene editing, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2017	Plant Genomics, IPK Gatersleben, Germany
2016	III° Horticulture Research (Nature Group) Congress, Nanjing, China
2016	Apple World Symposium, Yangling, Xi'An, China
2014	Grape Genetics, Beijing, China
2013	II° Plant Genomics, London, UK
2013	ISHS Molecular Markers in Horticulture, TN (I) (Convenor)
2013	Italian Society of Horticulture, Padua I
2012	ISHS Biotechnology in fruit crops, Nelson NZ
2011	Chinese Agriculture Academy of Science, Beijing, China
2011	Plant Genome Evolution, Amsterdam, NL
2010	ETNA European Training Networks, EPSO PhD school
1999, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017	Plant and Animal Genomes Congress – San Diego CA
2010	II° Internat. Symposium Genomics of Plant Genetic Resources Bologna (I)
2016	VIII° Congress of Rosaceae Genomics Angers (F) (Chair)
2014	VII° Congress of Rosaceae Genomics Seattle WA (USA)
2012	VI° Congress of Rosaceae Genomics San Michele all'Adige (I) (Convenor)
2010	V° Congress of Rosaceae Genomics Cape Town (ZA)
2008	IV° Congress of Rosaceae Genomics Pucon (CL)
2006, 2009	COST 858 Prague (CZ) and Bordeaux (F)
2007	American Society of Enology and Viticulture, Reno NV (USA)
2006	South African Society of Enology and Viticulture, Stellenbosch (ZA)
2006	5. Plant Genomics European Meeting, Venice (I)
2005	Italian-Israel Joint congress Jerusalem (IL)

Publications

124 REFEREED ISI Web PUBLICATIONS

Total impact points: 580

Average citation per Paper: 41

h-index: 36 (WoS); 39 (Scopus); 47 (G Scholar)

Note: Moser et al., 2005 *Funct. Integr. Genom.*, Karatas et al. *Genet. Mol. Res.*, not included in ISIWeb

Daccord N, Celton JM, Linsmith G, Becker C, Choisine N, Schijlen E, van de Geest H, Bianco L, Micheletti D, Velasco R, Di Pierro EA, Gouzy J, Muranty H, Gaillard S, Durel CE, Laurens F, Lespinasse Y, Aubourg S, Rees JG, Quesneville H, Weigel D, van de Weg E, Troglio M, Bucher E (2017) The apple genome: evolution and methylome dynamics of early fruit development. *Nat. Genet.* (in press)

Buonassisi D; Colombo M; Migliaro D; Dolzani C; Peressotti E; Mizzotti C; Velasco R; Masiero S; Perazzolli M; Vezzulli S. (2017) Breeding for grapevine downy mildew resistance: a review of "omics" approaches. *Euphytica* (in press)

- Farneti B, Di Guardo M, Khomenko I, Cappellin L, Biasioli F, Velasco R, Costa F (2017) Genome-wide association study unravels the genetic control of the apple volatilome and its interplay with fruit texture. *J Exp Bot (in press)*
- Pessina S., Palmieri L., Bianco L., Gassmann J., Visser R.G.F., Schouten H.J., Salamini F., Velasco R., Malnoy M.A. (2017) Frequency of a natural truncated allele of MdMLO19 in the germplasm of *Malus domestica*. *Mol. Breed.* 37:7
- Malnoy M, Viola R, Jung M-H, Koo O, Kim S, Kim J-S, Velasco R, Kanchiswamy CN, (2016) DNA-free genetically edited fruit crop plants using CRISPR/Cas9 ribonucleoproteins. *Frontiers Plant Science* 7:1904
- Di Pierro EA, Gianfranceschi L, Kruisselbrink JW, Bianco L, Troggio M, Bink CAM, Voorrips E, Di Guardo M, Koehorst HJJ van Putten, Aziz E, Tartarini S, Pagliarani G, Muranty H, Garkava-Gustavsson L, Longhi S, Micheletti D, Velasco R, Laurens F, van de Weg E (2016) A high-density, multi-parental, integrated SNP linkage map of the obliged outcrossing species *Malus x domestica* (Borkh), through a novel mapping approach. *HortRes (in press)*
- Tadiello A, Longhi S, Moretto M, Ferrarini A, Farneti B, Busatto N, Vrhovsek U, Biasioli F, Cappellin L, Sholz M, Velasco R, Trainotti L, Delledonne M, Costa F. (2016) Integrative approach combining transcriptomic assay with physical and metabolite analysis reveal novel clues about the regulatory mechanism governing the climacteric ripening physiology in apple (*Malus x domestica* Borkh.). *Pl. Journal (in press)*
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- Pessina S, Angeli D, Martens S, Visser R.G.F, Bai Y, Salamini F, Velasco R, Schouten H.J, Malnoy M. (2016) Knock-down of *MdMLO19* reduces susceptibility to powdery mildew (*Podosphaera leucotricha*) in *Malus x domestica* Borkh. *Plant Biotech J* 14:2033-2044
- Kanchiswamy CN, Maffei M, Malnoy M, Velasco R, Kim J-S. (2016) Fine-tuning next-generation genome editing tools. *Trends Biotech* 34(7): 562-574
- Montanari S, Perchepied L, Bus VGM, Gardiner SE, Chagné D, Durel CE, Velasco R, Malnoy M (2016) Quantitative genetic analysis for fire blight resistance in a pear interspecific family: a major QTL stable through environments and populations mapped to linkage group 2. *Mol Breed* 36: 47-
- Pessina S, Lenzi L, Perazzolli M, Campa M, Dalla Costa L, Urso S, Valè G, Salamini F, Velasco R, Malnoy M. (2016) Knock-down of *MLO* genes reduces susceptibility to powdery mildew in grapevine. *HortRes* 3:16016
- Bianco L, Cestaro A, Linsmith G, Muranty H, Micheletti D, Denance C, Kershbamer E, Larger S, Pindo M, Davassi A, Laurens F, Velasco R, Durel CE, Troggio M. (2016) Development and validation of the Axiom® Apple480K SNP genotyping array. *Plant J* 86, 62–74
- Busatto N, Farneti B, Tadiello A, Velasco R, Costa G, Costa F (2016) Candidate gene expression profiling reveals a time specific activation among different harvesting dates in 'Golden Delicious' and 'Fuji' apple cultivars. *Euphytica* 208:401–413
- Montanari S, Brewer L, Lamberts R, Velasco R, Malnoy M, Perchepied L, Guerif P, Durel CE, Bus VGM, Gardiner SE, Durel CE, Chagné D (2016). Genome mapping of post-zygotic hybrid necrosis in an interspecific pear population. *HortRes* 3:15064
- Muranty H, Troggio M, Ben Sadok I, Al Ridai M, Auwerkerken A, Banchi E, Velasco R, Stevanato P, Van de Weg E, Di Guardo M, Laurens F, Bink CAM (2015) Accuracy and responses of genomic selection on traits scored at harvest in apple. *HortRes* 2:15060
- Cova V, Bandara N L, Tartarini S, Gessler C, Troggio M, Velasco R, Komjanc M (2015) Fine mapping of *Rvi5* (*Vm*) scab resistance locus in apple (*Malus x domestica* Borkh.) *Mol. Breed.* 35(10): 200

- Sargent, JD; Yang, Y; Surbanovski, N; Bianco, L; Buti, M; Velasco, R; Giongo, L, Davis, TM (2015) HaploSNP affinities and linkage map positions illuminate subgenome composition in the octoploid, cultivated strawberry (*Fragaria x ananassa*). *Pl. Science* 242 (2016) 140–150
- Di Guardo M, Micheletti D, Bianco L, Koehorst-van Putten KJJ, Longhi S, Costa F, Aranzana MJ, Velasco R, Arús P, Troggio M, van de Weg EW. ASSIsT: An Automatic SNP Scoring Tool for in- and outbreeding species. *Bioinformatics*, 2015:1-2
- Potenza E, Racchi M, Sterck L, Asquini E, Velasco R, Van de Peer Y, Cestaro A (2015) Alternative splicing evaluation of 10 different grapevine cultivars. *BMC Genomics* 16:706
- Malacarne G, Costantini L, Collier, E, Battilana J, Velasco R, Vrhovsek U , Grando M.S, Moser C (2015) Integration of transcriptional profiling and metabolic QTL related to flavonol content and composition in (Syrah x Pinot noir) mature grapes. *J Exp Bot* 66(15): 4441-4453
- Falginella L, Cipriani G, Monte C, Testolin R, Velasco R, Troggio M, Gregori R, Tartarini S (2015) A major QTL controlling apple skin russeting on linkage group 12 in the 'Renetta Grigia di Torriana' variety. *BMC Plant Biol* 15:150
- Kanchiswamy CN, Malnoy M, Velasco R, Kim J-S, Viola R (2015) Non-GMO genetically edited crop plants. *Trends Biotech* 33(9): 489-491
- Montanari S, Guérif P, Ravon E, Denancé C, Muranty H, Robert P, Velasco R, Chagné D, Bus V, Percepied L, Durel CE (2015) QTL detection for *Cacopsylla pyri* resistance in an interspecific pear (*Pyrus* spp.) population. *Tree Genet. Genomes* (in press)
- Farneti B, Busatto N, Khomenko I, Cappellin L, Gutierrez S, Spinelli F, Velasco R, Biasioli F, Costa G, Costa F (2015) Untargeted metabolomics investigation of volatile compounds involved in the development of apple superficial scald by PTR-ToF–MS. *Metabolomics* 11:341-349
- Buti M, Poles L, Caset D, Magnago P, Fernandez Fernandez F, Colgan RJ, Velasco R, Sargent DJ (2015) Identification and validation of a QTL influencing bitter pit symptoms in apple (*Malus pumila*). *Mol. Breeding* 35:29-39
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- Cova V, Lasserre-Zuber P, Piazza S, Cestaro A, Velasco R, Durel CE, Malnoy M (2015) High-resolution genetic and physical map of the *Rvi1* (*Vg*) apple scab resistance locus. *Mol. Breeding* 35:16-28
- Cappellin L, Farneti B, Di Guardo M, Busatto N, Khomenko I, Romano A, Velasco R, Costa G, Biasioli F, Costa F (2015) QTL analysis coupled with PTR-ToF-MS and candidate gene based association mapping validate the role of Md-AAT1_{SSR} as a major gene in the control of flavor in apple fruit. *Plant Mol. Biol. Rep.* 33:239–252
- Kanchiswamy CN, Sargent DJ, Velasco R, Maffei ME, Malnoy M (2014) Looking forward: biotechnology of fruit crops. *Trends Biotech.* 33 (2): 62-62
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- Padmarasu S, Sargent DJ, Jaensch M, Kellerhalls M, Tartarini S, Velasco R, Troggio M, Patocchi A. (2014) Fine-mapping of the apple scab resistance locus *Rvi12* (*Vb*) derived from “Hansen's baccata #2”. *Mol. Breeding* 34:2119–2129
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- Migliaro D, Crespan M, Munoz-Organero G, Velasco R, Moser C, Vezzulli S (2014) Structural dynamics at the berry colour locus in *Vitis vinifera* L. somatic variants. *Austr. J. Grape and Wine Res.* 20, 485–495
- Longhi S, Giongo L, Buti M, Šurbanovski N, Viola R, Velasco R, Ward JA, Sargent DJ (2014) Molecular genetics and genomics of the Rosoideae – state of the art and future perspectives. *HortRes* 1: 1
- Fischer TA, Malnoy M, Hofmann T, Schwab W, Palmieri L, Wehrens R, Schuch LA, Müller M, Schimmelpfeng H, Velasco R, Martens S (2014) An F1 hybrid of cultivated apple (*Malus x domestica*) and European pear (*Pyrus communis*) with fertile F2 offspring. *Mol Breeding* 34:817–828
- Velasco R, Licciardello C (2014) A genealogy of the citrus family. *Nature Biotechnology* 32(7):640–642
- Busatto N, Farneti B, Tadiello A, Vrhovsek U, Cappellin L, Biasioli F, Velasco R, Costa G, Costa F (2014) Target metabolite and gene transcription profiling during the development of superficial scald in apple (*Malus x domestica* Borkh) *BMC Plant Biol* 14(1):193
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Autorizzo il trattamento dei dati personali contenuti nel mio curriculum vitae in base art. 13 del D. Lgs. 196/2003.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Riccardo Velasco".