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Alessandra Zambonelli is a full professor of Botany at the University of Bologna, and an adjunct Professor at the Food Futures Institute/Centre for Crop and Food Innovation at Murdoch University (Australia). She has been engaged in truffle biology and cultivation since 1992 and has served as an invited speaker and a member of the scientific and/or organizing committees of several national and international conferences.

She is currently the vice-president of the European Confederation of Mediterranean Mycology (CEMM) and the president of the Italian Mycological Society (Unione Micologica Italiana-APS, UMI). Additionally, she is an honorary member of the New Zealand Truffle Association. Dr. Zambonelli has contributed to over 200 scientific articles published in both international and Italian journals, books, or proceedings, primarily focused on truffles.

Dr. Zambonelli has served as a referee for numerous scientific journals and international research projects. She has coordinated and participated in several national and international projects and is currently involved in the EU projects FunDive, LifeGreen4Blue, DeepHorizon, PNRR-NBFX, UNTWIST, CARINA, and MICROBIOME4SOY.

She is also responsible for the Bologna research unit in the project PRIN 2022, titled "interactions of the White Truffles *Tuber magnatum* with Soil Microbiome and Plants".

