

Preface

II International Scientific Conference "Plants and Microbes: the future of biotechnology - PLAMIC2020" intends to provide a forum for presentations and discussions of recent achievements and innovations in plant and microbial biotechnology. The main directions of the conference are:

1. Plant biotechnology, including micropropagation, in vitro cultures, genetic transformation, breeding, bioinformatics and phytoremediation.
2. Microbial biotechnology, including environmental and agricultural microbiology and bioinformatics.
3. Plant-microbe symbiosis, including natural and artificial symbiotic systems: legume-rhizobium, actinorhizal and associative symbiosis, arbuscular mycorrhiza, cyanobacterial symbiosis, metagenomics and environmental biotechnology.

The first conference in the series was held in June 2018 in the city of Ufa, Russia. That meeting brought together more than 200 scientists working in plant and microbial biotechnology. The participants were from Belarus, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and United Kingdom. In 2020, the conference was organized by the Vavilovs Saratov State Agrarian University, Institute of Biochemistry and Physiology of Plants and Microorganisms, Russian Academy of Sciences, All-Russia Research Institute for Agricultural Microbiology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Biochemistry and Genetics, Ufa Federal Research Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences, Ufa Institute of Biology, Ufa Federal Research Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Microbiology, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus.

We express our sincere gratitude to all participants, experts, moderators for the work done, the result of which was an increase in the participants' interest in the forum. We are confident that thanks to such joint fruitful work, the forum confirmed its relevance as a high-level event and was positively evaluated both in Russia and abroad.

We look forward to further cooperation and meetings at the Vavilovs Saratov State Agrarian University.

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