



Dr Michele Morgante

Michele Morgante is currently the Scientific Director of Istituto di Genomica Applicata in Udine and is full professor of Genetics at the University of Udine. He was educated as a geneticist in Padova and Udine and then worked for 5 years at DuPont Crop Genomics as Senior Scientist.

His research group has been instrumental in establishing a number of genetic technology platforms that are now being widely deployed in plant genomic research (e.g. microsatellites, fluorescent BAC fingerprinting). His research programme is currently focusing on genome analysis in plants, including physical mapping, genome sequencing and resequencing and genome evolution studies, and on sequence diversity analysis and association mapping. He has contributed to the sequencing of the grapevine genome. He is particularly interested in novel approaches to dissecting complex traits and in developing the genomics and informatics technologies needed for this.

Lately he has become interested in understanding the role of junk DNA in determining phenotypic variation.

He is a member of Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (National Academy of Sciences) and has received the 2005 Medal for Physical and Natural Sciences of the Accademia Nazionale delle Scienze detta dei XL.