

# PLANT MICROBE INTERACTIONS EXPLORING MICROBES TO IMPROVE CROP PRODUCTIVITY

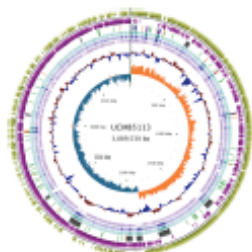
17<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2014, Makerere University, Uganda



The course is supported by the SLU Global Initiative and conducted jointly by SLU and Makerere University. The aim is to provide knowledge and skills in the biology, analysis and applications of beneficial plant-microbe interactions. The main idea is that biological agents could substitute for agrochemicals avoiding health hazards and support more sustainable crop production. The course will discuss a few known systems but provide generic information and knowhow to make the participant able to modify and apply the knowledge to any crop and cropping system. Combining students from SLU and East African Universities will improve the understanding of different scenarios and strategies to obtain better crop management. The course language is English and the course given at Makerere University Kabanyolo campus, Kampala, Uganda. The students should bring with a laptop for exercises and are expected to do some reading before course start.

### Topics

- Plant resource allocation, abiotic and biotic stress reactions
- Plant-microbe interactions, overall biology and mechanisms
- Microbes that promote growth and stress tolerance of crop plants
- Tools to study gene expression, signaling and cell fate during interactions



The topics are covered during lectures, laboratory exercises, literature seminars, group discussions and field excursions. In addition, functional genomics and bioinformatics tools will be utilised to study interactomics.

**Organisers:**  
Johan Meijer,  
Sarosh Bejai (SLU)  
Mildred Ochwo-  
Ssemakula,  
Settumba Mukasa  
(MAK)



To apply, please send a CV, letter of motivation for attending the course (max 1000 words), accompanied by a letter of recommendation from supervisor stating date of enrollment, and a description of the thesis project (max 1500 words) to [Sarosh.Bejai@slu.se](mailto:Sarosh.Bejai@slu.se) latest October 20. Decisions are expected by 30<sup>th</sup> October. Travel and boarding costs will be covered.