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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign

B.A. University of Rochester

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Rotter, D., Ambrose, K.A., and Belanger, F.C. (2010) Velvet bentgrass (*Agrostis canina* L.) is the likely diploid maternal parent of allotetraploid creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera* L.). *Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution*, 57:1065-1077

Koroch, A.R., Wang, W., Michael, T.P., Dudai, N., Simon, J.E., and Belanger, F.C. (2010) Estimation of nuclear DNA content of cultivated *Ocimum* species by using flow cytometry. *Israel Journal of Plant Sciences* 59:183-189

Dudai, N., Chaimovitsh, D., Fischer, R., and Belanger, F. (2010) Aroma as a factor in the breeding process of basil. *Acta Horticulturae*, 860, 167-171

Amundsen, K., Rotter, D., Li, H.M., Messing, J., Jung, G., Belanger, F., and Warnke, S. (2011) Miniature inverted-repeat transposable element identification and genetic marker development in *Agrostis*. *Crop Science* 51:1224-1231

Widiez, T., Hartman, T.G., Dudai, N., Yan, Q., Lawton, M., Havkin-Frenkel, D., and Belanger, F.C. (2011) Functional characterization of two new members of the coffeyol CoA *O*-methyltransferase-like gene family from *Vanilla planifolia* reveals a new class of plastid-localized *O*-methyltransferases. *Plant Molecular Biology* 76:475-488

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Rotter, D., Merewitz, E., Huang, B., and Belanger, F.C. (2012) Chromosomal regions associated with dollar spot resistance in colonial bentgrass. *Plant Breeding* 131:193-197

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- Ambrose, K.V. and Belanger, F.C. (2012) SOLiD-SAGE of endophyte-infected red fescue reveals numerous effects on host transcriptome and an abundance of highly expressed fungal secreted proteins. *PLoS ONE* 7(12):e53214
- Merewitz, E., Belanger, F., Warnke, S., Huang, B., and Bonos, S. (2014) Quantitative trait loci associated with drought tolerance in creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera* L.). *Crop Science* 54:2314-2324
- Ambrose, K.V. Koppenhofer, A.M., and Belanger, F.C. (2014) Horizontal gene transfer of a bacterial insect toxin gene into the *Epichloë* fungal symbionts of grasses. *Scientific Reports* 4:5562
- White, J.F. Jr., Torres, M.S. Sullivan, R.F., Jabbour, R.E., Chen, Q., Tadych, M., Irizarry, I., Bergen, M.S., Havkin-Frenkel, D., and Belanger, F.C. (2014) Microscopy research and technique: occurrence of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* as a systemic endophyte of Vanilla orchids. *Microscopy Research and Technique* 77:874-885
- Rao, X., Krom, N., Tang, Y., Widiez, T., Havkin-Frenkel, D., Belanger, F.C., Dixon, R.A., and Chen, F. (2014) A deep transcriptomic analysis of pod development in the vanilla orchid (*Vanilla planifolia*). *BMC Genomics* 15:964
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- Ambrose, K.V., Tian, Z., Wang, Y., Smith, J., Zylstra, G., Huang, B., and Belanger, F.C. (2015) Functional characterization of salicylate hydroxylase from the fungal endophyte *Epichloë festucae*. *Scientific Reports* 5:10939
- Jespersen, D., Belanger, F.C. and Huang, B. (2017) Candidate genes and molecular markers associated with heat tolerance in colonial bentgrass. *PLoS ONE* 12(2):e0171183
- Yang, H., Barros-Rios, J., Kourteva, G., Rao, X., Chen, F., Shen, H., Liu, C., Podstolski, A., Belanger, F., Havkin-Frenkel, D., and Dixon, R.A. (2017) A re-evaluation of the final step of vanillin biosynthesis in the orchid *Vanilla planifolia*. *Phytochemistry* 139: 33-46
- Tian, Z., Wang, R., Ambrose, K.V., Clarke, B.B., and Belanger, F.C. (2017) Isolation of a potential antifungal protein produced by *Epichloë festucae*, a fungal endophyte of strong creeping red fescue. *International Turfgrass Society Research Journal*, Accepted for publication
- Tian, Z., Wang, R., Ambrose, K.V., Clarke, B.B., and Belanger, F.C. (2017) The *Epichloë festucae* antifungal protein has activity against the plant pathogen *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*, the causal agent of dollar spot disease. *Scientific Reports* 7:5643

Books Edited

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Handbook of Vanilla Science and Technology (2011) Edited by D. Havkin-Frenkel and F.C. Belanger, Wiley-Blackwell, Oxford, UK, 339 pages