



# *agronomy*

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the *Agronomy* 2022 Young Investigator Award is Dr. Leontina Lipan.

## 2022 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR WINNER

Dr. Leontina Lipan is a Junior Researcher at Universidad Miguel Hernández (UMH, Spain), currently conducting a 2-year research stay at the Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology (IRTA, Spain), and she is also an external professor at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili for the subject Integrated Laboratory of Unit Operations in the food industry. Her work has engaged everything from the sustainability of water resources in almond crops to the effect of deficit irrigation on fruit quality. Nowadays, in IRTA, she is involved in projects related to (i) genetic improvements of almond cultivars better adapted to climate change; (ii) advanced techniques to predict the behavior of nuts (almonds, hazelnuts) in industrialization processes; (iii) development of fraud detection tools for Spanish nuts with a high risk of counterfeiting; (iv) valorization of mountain hazelnuts and almonds from rural areas; among others. As a result of the research activity so far, Leontina (i) was invited to 4 plenary conferences, and she was awarded with the “Best Speaker Award” in one of them organized by Foods, (ii) she is topic and guest editor of many Special Issues related to agrifood science, and (iii) she published 40 scientific articles in high-impact peer-reviewed journals, 4 teaching articles, 4 scientific dissemination articles, and 6 book chapters.

As the awardee, Dr. Leontina Lipan will receive an honorarium of CHF 2000, an offer to publish a paper free of charge before 31 December 2023 in *Agronomy* after peer-review, and an engraved plaque.

We would like to thank all the nominators from various fields of study for their participation and all the Award Committee Members for their evaluation of the many excellent nominations.

