



***European Network for the durable exploitation of crop protection strategies***

**IA3 Activity: Human resource exchange**

**ENDURE - Internal Mobility**

***Final activity report***

**Topic of the visit**

**Literature review on weed biology and management and analyses of a plant traits database under development within Endure RA 4.5.**

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**1. Information about researcher and sending partner**

**Name and surname:** Ivan Sartorato

**Professional status:** Scientist

**Sending partner:** CNR

**Institute/Department/Research Unit:** Institute for Agro environmental and Forest Biology (IBAF)

**Address:** Viale dell'Università 16, 35020 Legnaro (PD)

**E-mail and phone number of the researcher:** [ivan.sartorato@ibaf.cnr.it](mailto:ivan.sartorato@ibaf.cnr.it)  
Tel. +39 049 8272821

**Supervisor name\*:** -

**Supervisor e-mail\*:** -

**Supervisor phone number\*:** -

\*Supervisor information only for PhD student, post-doc and junior researchers

**2. Information about hosting partner**

**Hosting partner:** RRES

**Institute/Department/Research Unit:** Plant and Invertebrate Ecology Dept. (PIE)

**Address:** Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 2JQ Herts England

**Supervisor name\*:** Jonathan Storkey

**Supervisor e-mail\*:** jonathan.storkey@bbsrc.ac.uk

**Supervisor phone number\*:** +44 01582 763133 extn 2550

\* For senior scientist indicate the name of the collaborating colleague

### **3. Information about the visit**

**Duration:** 7 weeks (with an interval of one week in between, from 23/03/08 to 29/03/08)

**Start date:** 03/03/2008

**End date:** 30/04/2008

### **4. Description of the activities and outcomes**

#### **Background and context:**

The stay was organised as part of the Endure RA 4.5 on weed biology and management and stemmed from previous contacts and cooperation with Jonathan Storkey within a working group on weed-crop competition of the European Weed Research Society.

#### **Objective:**

In addition to the Endure activity other objectives of the stay were to re-establish the former collaboration, to reanalyse previous common datasets of weed-crop competition and to compare recent approaches on plant traits for the definition of functional groups of weeds.

#### **Activities carried out:**

The main activity carried out during the stay has been a thorough literature search on two weed species, *Abutilon theophrasti* and *Chenopodium album*, aiming to characterise the ecophysiology and competitive behaviour of the two species. Part of the information retrieved from both electronic and paper archives available at RRES have been used as input for the Weed Trait database under development within the Endure RA 4.5. Part of the stay was also devoted to an exchange of information and direct interactions with Niels Evans, administrator of the virtual laboratory (IA 2), to which CNR is participating.

### **5. Links between visit activity and ENDURE**

See above

### **6. Impact**

**Added value for the researcher:**

Apart from the strictly focussed activity previously described and the various opportunity for fruitful discussions on the specific topic, the value of the experience relayed on the possibility to know and compare different approaches to research and different research structures, also participating to field activity and discussing topics related to various RRES research projects. It should also be mentioned the possibility to refresh and improve my English skills.

**Added value for sending partner and hosting partner:**

The personal relationships established and reinforced during the stay will reverberate at partner's level; future cooperation and collaborations, not only about weeds, will become easier and more fruitful thanks to the possible exploitation of complementary competences and field environments.

**Date of submission**

20/05/08



Dr. Maurizio Sattin  
IA3 activity leader

Approved

