

Curriculum

Dott. ssa Agata Gadaleta

Agata Gadaleta is a researcher since 01/01/2005 in Agricultural Genetics at the Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences ex Faculty of Agriculture, University of Bari. Graduated with honor in Agricultural Science, University of Bari in 1999, from 1 November 1999 to 31 October 2002 she was Ph.D student in “Plant breeding”. In February 2000 she attended the advanced course “Use of molecular markers in plant breeding”, Cabrils Spagna, organized by the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM). Since March to October 2001 she was visiting scientist in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Albany, California-USA, working on tissue culture and genetic transformation of durum wheat. In March 2003 she got Ph. D. degree, the title of thesis was Mapping of QTL for High Protein Content and genetic transformation of durum wheat with genes coding for high molecular weight glutenin subunit. She participated to “Basic Course in Bioinformatics”, and “Sequencing Projects Data Processing Gene Finding and Protein Function Prediction” organized by Metapontum Agrobios in February and March 2002.

She is a member of pH. D School “ Dottorato di ricerca in Biodiversità, Agricoltura ed Ambiente”

She is in the **directive committee** of the SIGA “ Società Italiana di Genetica Agraria,

She is a member of international working groups :

- Member of EWG-DWGB “Expert Working Group On Durum Wheat Genomics And Breeding” :
- Member of Nutrient Use Efficiency Expert Working Group of the Wheat Initiative
- Member of Cost Action FA0604: Tools for Assessing and Harvesting Genetic Diversity and Functional Genomics for Testing and Validation of Candidate Genes

The research activities concerns the following topics:

❖ **Characterization, evaluation and use of genetic diversity in breeding activities**

- Restoration of biodiversity and evaluation of new genetic materials (wheat, pomegranate, fig)
- Availability of collection including crop wild relative and land race genetic resources) (wheat, pomegranate, fig)
- Selection of appropriate agricultural techniques and characterization of wheat cultivars for a competitive cereal production
- development of criteria and methods for grain quality testing

❖ **Sustainable agriculture:**

- Studies on combined water and nutrient stresses in wheat / interactions between plants/roots, soils and below ground biodiversity
- Identification of traits associated with improved plant performance under restricted water and nutrient availability to develop crop breeding strategies and tools.
- characterize crop performance under interacting environmental conditions
- Excessive fertilization and need to improve nutrient use efficiency

❖ **Food Security :**

- Study of mycotoxin accumulation in wheat,
- identification of gluten allergen genes
- Innovation in development of more nutritious wheat derived food products for sustainable and healthy human diet

❖ **Food security and Traceability**

- Development of innovative genetic analysis for varietal identification conducted on lands, row materials end-products);

Specific tools:

Study of Fusarium Head Blight resistance in durum wheat; Nitrogen Use Efficiency in durum wheat; Screening of wheat germoplasm and molecular characterization, development of genetic intervarietal linkage maps with molecular markers; Fusarium and power mildew resistance gene identification in durum wheat; identification and characterization of quantitative traits loci (QTLs) for grain protein content and carotenoid pigments content; identification of molecular markers for the assisted selection (MAS) of important bio-agronomic traits; characterization and cultivar identification in crops by means of biochemical and molecular markers; genetic transformation of wheat. The research unit has developed a valuable experience in the sectors of molecular genetics, cytogenetics, in vitro culture, biochemical analyses, experimental design of field trials, and evaluation of several varieties and segregant populations for a number of important quantitative and qualitative bio-agronomic traits.

She was involved in Italian projects:

Laboratorio di GENomica per caratteri di importanza AGROnomica in frumento duro” Mi.P.A., 2006-2009; “Progetto “Sistemi, metodologie e strategie per la caratterizzazione e valorizzazione della granelle” FISR- Mi.P.A 2005-2008. She was the coordinator of the PRIN project: “Genetic transformation of durum wheat and production of plants free of selectable marker genes”;

coordinator of the *PRIN project "Plant cell wall determinants for Fusarium resistance"* and is coordinator of the project PON_ISCOCEM "Technological development and innovation for sustainability and competitiveness of the cereal productive chain in Southern Italy".

She has been referee for several journal such as Molecular Breeding, Plant Breeding, BMC Plant Biology, BMC Genomics, BMC Genetics, Pakistan Journal of Scientific & Industrial Research, International Journal of Molecular Sciences ecc.

Participation to international projects:

- "European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, COST
- SA-Apulia Awards Cooperation Italia - Sud Australia- Title of the proposal : "Carbon partitioning between starch and cell walls in durum: implications in human health". Coordinator prof. Geoff Fincher director of "Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Plant Cell Walls".
- SA-Apulia Awards Cooperation Italia - Sud Australia " Resources and capabilities to support the South Australian durum improvement program". Coordinator prof. Peter Langridge, director of "Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics" Adelaide, Australia.
- Cooperation on Nitrogen metabolism with l'USDA-ARS Western Regional Research Center, Albany, CA 94710-1105 USA

Invited speaker:

1. Oral Communication Workshop on International Durum Collaboration" tenutosi ad Adelaide Australia il 2-3/02/2012
2. Oral Communication, International symposium "Genetics and breeding of durum wheat" May 27-30 2013,Rome, Italy
3. Oral Communication, International symposium "From Seed to Pasta & Beyond A Sustainable Durum Wheat Chain for Food Security and Healthy Lives ,Bologna Italy, 31 May / 2 June 2015 :
4. Oral Communication Scientific Symposium in Grape and Wheat Research: 3rd/ 4th December CSIRO Agriculture, Crace Seminar Room, 44 Bellenden St, Crace, CANBERRA

The scientific activity of Dr. Agata Gadaleta is documented in 58 full papers, 53 of which published in peer-reviewed journals with IF, with *h-index* of 15, a total citation of 550 (data from Scopus) the total Impact factor of all publication 101.57.

Dr. Agata Gadaleta is also author of more than 100 presentations at National and International Conferences.

RELEVANT PAPERS:

1. Colasuonno P, Marcotuli I, Lozito ML, Simeone R, Blanco A, Gadaleta A. 2017 Characterization of Aldehyde Oxidase (AO) Genes Involved in the Accumulation of Carotenoid Pigments in Wheat Grain. **Frontiers in Plant Science**. 2017;8:863. doi:10.3389/fpls.2017.00863.
2. Giacomo Mangini, Benedetta Margiotta, Ilaria Marcotuli, Massimo Antonio Signorile Agata Gadaleta, Antonio Blanco. 2017 Genetic diversity and phenetic analysis in wheat (*Triticum turgidum* subsp. *durum* and *Triticum aestivum* subsp. *aestivum*) landraces based on SNP markers. **Genet Resour Crop Evol** (2017) 64: 1269. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10722-016-0435-7>
3. Pasqualina Colasuonno, Maria Luisa Lozito, Ilaria Marcotuli, Domenica Nigro, Angelica Giancaspro, Giacomo Mangini, Pasquale De Vita, Anna Maria Mastrangelo, Nicola Pecchioni, Kelly Houston, Rosanna Simeone, Agata Gadaleta and Antonio Blanco 2017. The carotenoid biosynthetic and catabolic genes in wheat and their association with yellow pigments. **BMC Genomics** 18:122
4. Ferrara, G., Gallotta, A., Pacucci, C., Matarrese, A. M. S., Mazzeo, A., Giancaspro, A., Gadaleta, A., Piazzolla, F. and Colelli, G. (2017), The table grape ‘Victoria’ with a long shaped berry: a potential mutation with attractive characteristics for consumers. **J. Sci. Food Agric**, 97: 5398–5405. doi:10.1002/jsfa.8429
5. Giancaspro, A., Mazzeo, A., Giove, L.S., Zito, D., Marcotuli, I., Gallotta, A., Colasuonno, P., Nigro, D., Blanco, A., Aradhya, M., Gadaleta, A. and Ferrara, G. (2017). Exploiting DNA-based molecular tools to assess genetic diversity in pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.) selections and cultivars. *Fruits* 72(5), 292-305. DOI: 10.17660/th2017/72.5.5
6. Giancaspro A., Gadaleta A., Blanco A. (2017) Real-Time PCR for the Detection of Precise Transgene Copy Number in Wheat. In: Bhalla P., Singh M. (eds) *Wheat Biotechnology. Methods in Molecular Biology*, vol 1679. Humana Press, New York, NY
7. Anna Iannucci, Daniela Marone, Maria Anna Russo, et al., 2017 “Mapping QTL for Root and Shoot Morphological Traits in a Durum Wheat × *T. dicoccum* Segregating Population at Seedling Stage,” **International Journal of Genomics**, vol. 2017, Article ID 6876393, 17 pages, 2017. doi:10.1155/2017/6876393
8. Domenica Nigro, Barbara Laddomada, Giovanni Mita, Emanuela Blanco, Pasqualina Colasuonno, Rosanna Simeone, Agata Gadaleta, Antonella Pasqualone, Antonio Blanco, Genome-wide association mapping of phenolic acids in tetraploid wheats. **Journal of Cereal Science**, Volume 75, 2017, Pages 25-34, ISSN 0733-5210, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcs.2017.01.022>.
9. Marcotuli, I.; Gadaleta, A.; Mangini, G.; Signorile, A.M.; Zacheo, S.A.; Blanco, A.; Simeone, R.; Colasuonno, P. 2017 Development of a High-Density SNP-Based Linkage Map and Detection of QTL for β -Glucans, Protein Content, Grain Yield per Spike and Heading Time in Durum Wheat. **Int. J. Mol. Sci.** 2017, 18, 1329.
10. Nigro, D.; Fortunato, S.; Giove, S.L.; Mangini, G.; Yacoubi, I.; Simeone, R.; Blanco, A.; Gadaleta, A. 2017 Allelic Variants of Glutamine Synthetase and Glutamate Synthase Genes

- in a Collection of Durum Wheat and Association with Grain Protein Content. **Diversity** 2017, 9, 52.
11. Giancaspro A., Giove S.L., Zito D., Blanco A., **Gadaleta A.** 2016. Mapping QTLs for *Fusarium* Head Blight Resistance in an Interspecific Wheat Population. *Frontiers in Plant Science*. 2016;7:1381. doi:10.3389/fpls.2016.01381.
 12. Nigro, D., Fortunato, S., Giove, S. L., Paradiso, A., Gu, Y. Q., Blanco, A., M. C. de Pinto, **Gadaleta, A.** 2016. Glutamine synthetase in Durum Wheat: Genotypic Variation and Relationship with Grain Protein Content. *Frontiers in Plant Science*, 7, 971. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2016.00971>
 13. Marcotuli I, Y S.-Y. Hsieh, J. Lahnstein, K. Yap, R. A. Burton, A. Blanco, G. B. Fincher, **A. Gadaleta** 2016. Structural Variation and Content of Arabinoxylans in Endosperm and Bran of Durum Wheat (*Triticum turgidum* L.) *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* 2016 64 (14), 2883-2892 DOI: 10.1021/acs.jafc.6b00103
 14. Marcotuli I, Houston K, Schwerdt JG, Waugh R, Fincher GB, Burton RA, Blanco A, Gadaleta A. 2016. Genetic diversity and genome wide association study of beta-glucan content in tetraploid wheat grains. *PLoS ONE* 11:e0152590
 15. Giancaspro A., P. Colasuonno, D. Zito, A. Blanco, A. Pasqualone, A. **Gadaleta**, 2016. Varietal traceability of bread 'Pane Nero di Castelvetro' by denaturing high pressure liquid chromatography analysis of single nucleotide polymorphisms. *Food Control*, 59: 809-817, ISSN 0956-7135
 16. Ferradini, N., Giancaspro, A., Nicolìa, A., **Gadaleta, A.**, Veronesi, F., & Rosellini, D. 2016. Efficient, Antibiotic Marker-Free Transformation of a Dicot and a Monocot Crop with Glutamate 1-Semialdehyde Aminotransferase Selectable Marker Genes. *Recombinant Proteins from Plants: Methods and Protocols*, 89-98.
 17. Colasuonno, P., Incerti, O., Lozito, M.L., Simeone, R., **Gadaleta, A.** and Blanco, A. 2016 DHPLC technology for high-throughput detection of mutations in a durum wheat TILLING population. *BMC Genet.* 17, 43.
 18. Ferrara G., A. Mazzeo, C. Pacucci, A. M. S. Matarrese, A. Tarantino, C. Crisosto, O. Incerti, I. Marcotuli, D. Nigro, A. Blanco, A. **Gadaleta** 2016. Characterization of edible fig germplasm from Puglia, southeastern Italy: Is the distinction of three fig types (Smyrna, San Pedro and Common) still valid?, *Scientia Horticulturae*, 205 (23) 52-58, ISSN 0304-4238, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.scienta.2016.04.016>.
 19. Volpicella, M., Fanizza, I., Leoni, C., Gadaleta, A., Nigro, D., Gattulli, B., Mangini G., Blanco A., Ceci, L. R. (2016). Identification and Characterization of the Sucrose Synthase 2 Gene (*Sus2*) in Durum Wheat. *Frontiers in Plant Science*, 7, 266. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2016.00266>
 20. Mangini G., B. Margiotta, I. Marcotuli, M. A. Signorile, A. Gadaleta, A. Blanco 2016. Genetic diversity and phenetic analysis in wheat (*Triticum turgidum* subsp. *durum* and *Triticum aestivum* subsp. *aestivum*) landraces based on SNP markers. *Genet Resour Crop Evo* DOI: 10.1007/s10722-016-0435-7
 21. Barabaschi D, Magni F, Volante A, **Gadaleta A**, Šimková H, Scalabrin S, Prazzoli ML, Bagnaresi P, Lacrima K, Michelotti V, Desiderio F, Orrù L, Francia E, Fricano A, Mastrangelo AM, Tononi P, Vitulo N, Jurman I, Frenkel Z, Cattonaro F, Morgante M, Blanco A, Doležel J, Delledonne M, Stanca AM, Cattivelli L, Valè G 2015. Physical Mapping of Bread Wheat Chromosome 5A: an Integrated Approach. **The Plant Genome**

22. Ilaria Marcotuli, Kelly Houston, Robbie Waugh, Geoffrey B. Fincher, Rachel A. Burton, Antonio Blanco, Agata **Gadaleta** 2015. Genome wide association mapping for arabinoxylan content in a collection of tetraploid wheats. **PLoS One**: 10(7): e0132787 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0132787
23. Giancaspro A., P. Colasuonno, D. Zito, A. Blanco, A. Pasqualone, **A. Gadaleta** 2015. Varietal traceability of bread 'Pane Nero di Castelvetro' by Denaturing High Pressure Liquid Chromatography analysis of single nucleotide polymorphisms. **Food Control** DOI: 10.1016/j.foodcont.2015.07.006
24. Pasqualone, L. Piarulli, G. Mangini, **A. Gadaleta**, A. Blanco, R. Simeone 2015 Quality characteristics of parental lines of wheat mapping populations. **Agricultural and Food Science** 24: 118–127
25. F. D'Orso, AM. De Leonardis, S. Salvi, **A. Gadaleta**, I. Ruberti, L. Cattivelli, G. Morelli and A M. Mastrangelo 2015. Conservation of AtTZF1, AtTZF2 and AtTZF3 homolog gene regulation by salt stress in evolutionarily distant plant species. **Frontiers in Plant Science**, 6:394
26. Lionetti, V., Giancaspro, A., Fabri, E., Giove, S.L., Reem, N., Zobotina, O.A., Blanco, A., **Gadaleta, A.**, Bellincampi, D. 2015. Cell wall traits as potential resources to improve resistance of durum wheat against *Fusarium graminearum*. **BMC Plant Biology**, 15 (1):6 DOI: 10.1186/s12870-014-0369-1
27. Taranto, F., Mangini, G., Pasqualone, A., Gadaleta, A., Blanco, A. 2015. Mapping and allelic variations of Ppo-B1 and Ppo-B2 gene-related polyphenol oxidase activity in durum wheat. *Molecular Breeding*, 35 (2):80 DOI: 10.1007/s11032-015-0272-y
28. **Gadaleta A.**, Nigro D., Marcotuli I., A. Giancaspro, Blanco A. 2014. Molecular characterization of candidate genes involved in nitrogen metabolism and relationships with the grain protein content of durum wheat. *Options Méditerranéennes*
29. Colasuonno P, Incerti O, Giove SL, Giancaspro A, Zacheo ZA, **Gadaleta A.** 2014. Isolation and characterization of phytoene synthase 2 (*psy2*) genes in wheat. *Options Méditerranéennes*
30. **Gadaleta, A.** ,Giancaspro, A., Nigro, D., Giove, S.L., Incerti, O., Simeone, R., Piarulli, L.a, Colasuonno, P., Valè, G., Cattivelli, L., Blanco, A. 2014. A new genetic and deletion map of wheat chromosome 5A to detect candidate genes for quantitative traits. **Molecular Breeding** 34(4): 1599-1611 (DOI 10.1007/s11032-014-0185-1)
31. Russo, M.A., Ficco, D.B.M., Laidò, G., Marone, D., Papa, R., Blanco, A., **Gadaleta, A.**, De Vita, P., Mastrangelo, A.M. 2014. A dense durum wheat × T. dicoccum linkage map based on SNP markers for the study of seed morphology. **Molecular Breeding** 34(4): 1579-1597

32. P. Colasuonno, **A. Gadaleta**, Giancaspro, A., Nigro, D., Giove, S., Incerti, O., Mangini, G., Signorile, A., Simeone, R., Blanco, A., 2014. Development of a high-density SNP-based linkage map and detection of yellow pigment content QTLs in durum wheat. **Molecular Breeding** 34(4): 1563-1578
33. Ferrara, G. Giancaspro, A., Mazzeo, A., Giove, S.L., Matarrese, A.M.S., Pacucci, C., Punzi, R., Trani, A., Gambacorta, G., Blanco, A., **Gadaleta, A.** 2014. Characterization of pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.) genotypes collected in Puglia region, Southeastern Italy. **Scientia Horticulturae** 178: 70-78
34. Nigro, D., Giove, S.L., Fortunato, S., Incerti, O., Zacheo, S.A., Blanco, A., **Gadaleta, A.** 2014. Allelic variation of wheat flour allergens in a collection of wheat genotypes. **Journal of Chemistry Volume 2014**, e 629379
35. **Gadaleta, A.**, Nigro, D., Marcotuli, I., Giancaspro, A., Giove, S., Blanco, A. 2014. Isolation and characterization of cytosolic glutamine synthetase (GSe) genes and association with grain protein content in durum wheat. **Crop and Pasture Science** 65, (1): 38-45
36. Nigro, D., Blanco, A., Anderson, O.D., **Gadaleta, A.** 2014 Characterization of Ferredoxin-Dependent Glutamine-Oxoglutarate Amidotransferase (Fd-GOGAT) Genes and Their Relationship with Grain Protein Content QTL in Wheat. **PLoS One** 9(8):e103869 (DOI: 0.1371/journal.pone.0103869)
37. Nigro D, Gu Y Q., Huo N, Marcotuli I, Blanco A, Gadaleta A., Anderson O. D. 2013. Structural analysis of the wheat genes encoding NADH-dependent glutamine-2-oxoglutarate amidotransferases and correlation with grain protein content. **PLoS One.**, 8 (9) , art. no. e73751
38. Colasuonno P., Mastrangelo M.A., Blanco A., **Gadaleta A.** 2013. Description of durum wheat linkage map and comparative sequence analysis of wheat mapped DArT markers with rice and Brachypodium genomes - **BMC Genetics**, 14:114 doi:10.1186/1471-2156-14-114
39. Marone, D., Russo, M. A., Laidò, G., De Vita, P., Papa, R., Blanco, A., **Gadaleta A.**, Rubiales D., Mastrangelo, A. M. (2013). Genetic basis of qualitative and quantitative resistance to powdery mildew in wheat: from consensus regions to candidate genes. **BMC Genomics**, 14(1), 1-17.
40. Laidò, G., Mangini, G., Taranto, F., **Gadaleta, A.**, Blanco, A., Cattivelli, L., Marone, D., Mastrangelo, A.M., Papa, R., De Vita, P. 2013. Genetic diversity and population structure of tetraploid wheats (*Triticum turgidum* L.) estimated by SSR, DArT and pedigree data. **PLoS ONE**, 8(6), 27 June 2013, Article number e67280
41. Cifarelli, R.A., D'onofrio, O., Grillo, R., Mango, T., Cellini, F., Piarulli, L., Simeone, R., Giancaspro, A., Colasuonno, P., Blanco, A., **Gadaleta, A.** 2013. Development of a new wheat microarray from a durum wheat totipotent cDNA library used for a powdery mildew resistance study. **Cellular and Molecular Biology Letters**, 18 (2): 231-248.
42. Menzo, V., Giancaspro, A., Giove, S., Nigro, D., Zacheo, S., Colasuonno P., Marcotuli, I., Incerti, O., Blanco, A. **Gadaleta, A.** 2013 TRAP molecular markers as a system for saturation of the genetic map of durum wheat. **Euphytica**
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44. Marone D., Laidò G., **Gadaleta A.**, Colasuonno P., Ficco D., Giancaspro A., Giove S., Panio G., Russo M., De Vita P., Cattivelli L., Papa R., Blanco A., Mastrangelo A. 2012. A

- high-density consensus map of A and B wheat genomes. **Theoretical And Applied Genetics**. 125 (8) , pp. 1619-1638 DOI 10.1007/s00122-012-1939-y
45. **Gadaleta A.**, Giancaspro A., Giove S.L., Zacheo S., Incerti O., Simeone R., Colasuonno P., Nigro D., Valè G., Cattivelli L., Stanca M. and Blanco A. 2012. Development of a deletion and genetic linkage map for the 5A and 5B chromosomes of wheat (*Triticum aestivum*). **Genome** **55(6): 417-427**.
 46. Giancaspro A., Rosellini D., Blanco A. **Gadaleta A.** 2012 The GSA-AT gene from alfalfa as a safe alternative selectable marker in durum wheat genetic transformation. **Plant Cell Tissue And Organ Culture**. **109 (3): 447-455**
 47. **Gadaleta A.**, Giancaspro A., Zacheo S., Nigro D., Giove S, Blanco A. 2011. Comparison of genomic and EST-derived SSR markers in phylogenetic analysis of wheat. **Plant Genetic Resource**, **9(2): 243-246**
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