

Aglaïa (Litsa) Liopa-Tsakalidi

Short CV

Aglaïa (Litsa) Liopa-Tsakalidi is a former Associate Professor in the Department of Agriculture, School of Agricultural Sciences, University of Patras, with a specialization in "Plant technology with an emphasis on plant growth modelling." Her academic profile is available at https://agriculture.upatras.gr/?page_id=4154, and her research activity is documented via Scopus (ID: 35932187700), ORCID (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5696-2167>), and active profiles on Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and LinkedIn. She holds a degree from the Department of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and a doctorate (Dr. rer. nat.) from Universität des Saarlandes, where she also served as a scientific collaborator for a decade. She subsequently pursued an academic career as Assistant and then Associate Professor at the University of Patras until her retirement.

Her professional trajectory combines research, teaching, and administration: she taught at the secondary education level, worked as a Postdoctoral Researcher at ICEHT/FORTH, and as a Grade D Researcher at the Plant Protection Institute of Patras; she served as Assistant Professor at TEI Messolonghi, and held the positions of Head of Department at TEI of Western Greece and Chair of the Department of Agriculture at the University of Patras. She also served as Director of a Postgraduate Studies Programme, Deputy Chair at TEI of Western Greece, deputy representative to the National Rural Network, and member of the Board of Directors of a Municipal Development Enterprise.

Her publication record includes 36 articles in international peer-reviewed journals, 51 international conference papers, and 66 abstracts. Recent research focuses on functional foods, smart irrigation using LoRaWAN technology, and IoT/UAV applications in precision agriculture. As Principal Investigator, she has led 17 research projects, including Smart OliveFarm, AREThOUSA, AGROTRACE, LOC PRO II, and MILUNET, and has participated in more than 25 programmes, among them THEROS, NEGHTRA, and BIOSQUASHBREED.

Her teaching portfolio spans two decades and includes lecturing at university and technological institute levels on subjects such as Plant Technology, Information Technology Applications in Agriculture, Organic Farming, Aromatic Plants, Systematic Botany, and Weed Science, as well as Plant Physiology at Universität des Saarlandes. She has supervised undergraduate and postgraduate theses, participated in examination committees, and delivered lectures in vocational training programmes organised by bodies including ELKEPA, IEK, and GEOTEE.

Her service record includes roles as reviewer for international journals and conferences, expert evaluator for the Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014–2020, evaluator for the Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation and the Heraclitus II programme, Special Evaluator for the European Commission (DGXII AG, 1999), and member of academic selection committees at TEIs and the University of Patras. She edited the Proceedings of the 22nd Panhellenic Conference of the Hellenic Society of Horticultural Science (ESGE), authored teaching notes in Plant Technology and Animal Technology, chaired scientific sessions, delivered invited presentations, and served on the scientific committees of Panhellenic Conferences. She also chaired the organising committee of the 22nd Panhellenic ESGE Conference held in Patras.

Guest Editor of the Special Issue «Precision Irrigation for Sustainable Specialty Crops: Efficiency, Management and Productivity», *Agriculture (MDPI)*, 2026–, overseeing scientific coordination, peer review management, and thematic coherence.

In 2026, an Honorary Plaque was awarded by the Department of Agriculture, University of Patras, in recognition of her long-standing and invaluable contributions to the Department. In 2023, she was awarded by the Hellenic Society for Horticultural Science for long-term contributions to education and research.

She is a member of several scientific societies, including the Deutsche Botanische Gesellschaft, the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), the Hellenic Society of Horticultural Science (ESGE), the Hellenic Society of Plant Breeding, the Hellenic Weed Science Society, and the Hellenic Ecological Society.