

Date of birth: October 1990

Gender: Male

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Work address: Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II, 9, 12042 Pollenzo, CN, (Italy)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor

University of Gastronomic Sciences [08/2023 – current]

Assistant Professor of Environmental and Applied Botany at the University of Gastronomic Sciences, Italy.

EDUCATION & INTERNSHIP

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Czech University of Life Sciences Prague [10/2018 – 03/2023]

Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences, Tropical Agrobiolgy and Bioresource Management programme

Internship

University of Bonn [01/10/2019 – 01/12/2019]

Institute of Crop Sciences and Resource Conservation

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

Czech University of Life Sciences Prague [10/2016 – 06/2018]

Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences, Tropical Crop Management and Ecology programme

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.)

Tishreen University [10/2009 – 02/2015]

Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, five years programme (three years in general agronomy, and two years specialization in horticultural studies)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **Arabic**

Other language(s):

English

Listening C2 Reading C2

Writing C2 Speaking C2

Czech

Listening A2

Writing B1

Italian

Listening B1 Reading B1

Writing B1 Speaking A2

DIGITAL SKILLS

MS Office (Proficient) / SPSS (Intermediate) / R (Basic)

1. **Sulaiman N***. 2025. Botanical Ethnoknowledge Index: a new quantitative assessment method for cross-cultural analysis. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 21(1):20. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-025-00772-6>
2. Alrhoun M, Mattalia G, Romano C, **Sulaiman N**, Klöti L, Savasta B, Simoni AL, Svalduz G, Pieroni A. 2025. Echoes of Change: A Comparative Study of Climate Change Perceptions across Ecological Regions in Italy and Austria. *Scientific Reports*. (In Press).
3. Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N***, Ullah I, Sökand R, Pieroni A. 2025. Biocultural Diversity at Risk Amidst and Beyond Overtourism: The Decline in Wild Green Foraging in Corfu over the Past 50 Years. *Land* 20;14(3):654. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land14030654>
4. Pieroni A, **Sulaiman N***, Alrhoun M. 2025. Food resilience and adaptation on the move: the importance of fostering studies on the Romani local knowledge systems. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 21(1):1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-024-00752-2>
5. Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N***, Pieroni A. 2025. Phylogenetic Perspectives and Ethnobotanical Insights on Wild Edible Plants of the Mediterranean, Middle East, and North Africa. *Foods* 14(3):465. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods14030465>
6. Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N***, Mattalia G, Ahmed HM, Khatib C, Cantürk YY, Zucca G, Ammam A, Ahmad M, Pieroni A. 2025. Ethnoecology of desert truffles hunting: A cross-cultural comparative study on practices and perceptions in the Mediterranean and the Near East. *Journal of Arid Environments* 229:105367. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaridenv.2025.105367>
7. Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N***, Pieroni A. 2025. Shifting Herbal Knowledge: The Ecological and Cultural Dynamics Behind Plant Use Changes in the Southern Occitan Alps. *Plants* 14(3):367. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants14030367>
8. Pieroni A, Zocchi DM, Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N**, Bavorova M, Sökand R. 2025. Not “just necessity”? Two-x-eco-cultural dilemmas and the ethnobiological importance of the informal grannies’ markets in Moldova. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 21(1):17. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-025-00770-8>
9. Alrhoun M, Romano A, **Sulaiman N***, Pieroni A. 2025. Old Plants for New Food Products? The Diachronic Human Ecology of Wild Herbs in the Western Alps. *Plants* 14(1):122. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants14010122>
10. **Sulaiman N***, Zocchi DM, Bonafede S, Nanni C, Sökand R, Pieroni A. 2024. Going or Returning to Nature? Wild Vegetable Uses in the Foraging-Centered Restaurants of Lombardy, Northern Italy. *Plants* 13(15):2151. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants13152151>
11. Pieroni A, **Sulaiman N***, Prakofjewa J, Haq SM, Zocchi DM, Krigas N, Chryssanthopoulou V, Sökand R. 2024. Isolated Mediterranean Foraging: Wild Greens in the Matrifocal Community of Olympos, Karpathos Island, Greece. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 20(1):98. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-024-00598-x>.
12. **Sulaiman N***, Salehi F, Prakofjewa J, Cavalleri SA, Ahmed HM, Mattalia G, Rastegar A, Maghsudi M, Amin HM, Rasti A, Hosseini SH. 2024. Cultural vs. State Borders: Plant Foraging by Hawraman and Mukriyan Kurds in Western Iran. *Plants* 13(7):1048; <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants13071048>.

13. Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N***, Haq SM, Abidullah S, Prakofjewa J, Krigas N, Pieroni A, Söukand R. **2024**. Is Boiling Bitter Greens a Legacy of Ancient Crete? Contemporary Foraging in the Minoan Refugium of the Lasithi Plateau. *Foods* 13(22):3588. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods13223588>.
14. Shah AA, Raza A, **Sulaiman N***, Khadka D, Majid A, Aziz MA, Abbasi AM, Ahmad M, Pieroni A. **2024**. The Importance of Sharing: Wild Plant Knowledge in Three Valleys of Northern Pakistan. *Plant Biosystems* 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1080/11263504.2024.1234567>.
15. Ullah T, Khan SM, Abdullah A, **Sulaiman N***, Ullah A, Khan MS, Zeb SA, Pieroni A. **2024**. Bio-Cultural Diversity for Food Security: Traditional Wild Food Plants and Their Folk Cuisine in Lakki Marwat, Northwestern Pakistan. *Diversity* 16(11):684. <https://doi.org/10.3390/d16110684>.
16. Gillani SW, Ahmad M, Manzoor M, Waheed M, Iqbal Z, Ullah R, Pieroni A, Zhang L, **Sulaiman N**, Alrhoun M. **2024**. The Nexus Between Ecology of Foraging and Food Security: Cross-Cultural Perceptions of Wild Food Plants in Kashmir Himalaya. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 20(1):77. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-024-00577-2>.
17. Alrhoun M, **Sulaiman N**, Pieroni A. **2024**. What Drives Herbal Traditions? The Influence of Ecology and Cultural Exchanges on Wild Plant Teas in the Balkan Mountains. *Land* 13(12), 2146. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land13122146>.
18. Mwami B, Mañourová A, Hendre P, Muchugi A, Verner V, Kariuki P, **Sulaiman N***, Polesny Z. **2024**. Traditional Knowledge, Use and Management of Drumstick Tree (*Moringa oleifera* Lam.) among the Mijikenda Community in Kilifi, Kenya. *Plants* 13(24), 3547. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants13243547>.
19. **Sulaiman N***, Zocchi DM, Borrello MT, Mattalia G, Antoniazzi L, Berlinghof SE, Bewick A, Häfliger I, Schembs M, Torri L, Pieroni A. **2024**. Traditional Knowledge Evolution Over Half of a Century: Local Herbal Resources and Their Changes in Upper Susa Valley, NW Italy. *Plants* 13(1), 43; <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants13010043>.
20. Zocchi DM, **Sulaiman N**, Prakofjewa J, Söukand R, Pieroni A. **2024**. Local wild food plants and food products in a multi-cultural region: an exploratory study among diverse ethnic groups in Bessarabia, Southern Moldova. *Sustainability* 16(5):1968; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su16051968>
21. Horackova J, Chuspe Zans ME, Kokoska L, **Sulaiman N**, Bortl L, Clavo Peralta ZM, Pinedo Puricho P, Polesny Z. **2023**. Inventory of Medicinal Plants Used by Cashinahua (*Huni Kuin*) Herbalists in Purus Province in the Peruvian Amazon. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*, 19, 16. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-023-00586-4>.
22. **Sulaiman N***, Aziz MA, Stryamets N, Mattalia G, Zocchi DM, Ahmed HM, Manduzai AK, Shah AA, Faiz A, Söukand R, Polesny Z, Pieroni A. **2023**. The Importance of Becoming Tamed: Wild Food Plants as Possible Novel Crops in Selected Food Insecure Regions. *Horticulturae*, 9(2), 171. <https://doi.org/10.3390/horticulturae9020171>.
23. Pieroni A, Morini G, Piochi M, **Sulaiman N**, Kalle R, Haq SM, Devecchi A, Franceschini C, Zocchi DM, Migliavada R, Prakofjewa J, Sartori M, Krigas N, Ahmad M, Torri L, Söukand R. **2023**. Bitter is Better: Wild Greens Used in the Blue Zone of Ikaria, Greece. *Nutrients*, 15(14):3242. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu15143242>.
24. **Sulaiman N**, Verner V, Polesny Z. **2023**. Socioeconomic Dimensions of Wild Food Plant Use during the Conflict in Syria. *Economic Botany* 77, 267–281. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12231-023-09579-6>.

25. Zocchi DM, Bondioli C, Hosseini SH, Miara MD, Musarella CM, Mohammadi D, Manduzai AK, Issa KD, **Sulaiman N**, Khatib C, Ahmed HM, Faraj TA, Amin HIM, Hussain FHS, Faiz A, Pasqualone A, Heinrich F, Fontefrancesco MF, Pieroni A. **2022**. Food Security beyond Cereals: Cross-geographical Comparative Study on Acorn Bread Heritage in the Mediterranean and the Middle East. *Foods*, 11, 3898. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods11233898>.
26. Pieroni A, **Sulaiman N**, Söukand R. **2022**. *Chorta* (Wild Greens) in Central Crete: The Bio-Cultural Heritage of a Hidden and Resilient Ingredient of the Mediterranean Diet. *Biology*, 11(5):673. <https://doi.org/10.3390/biology11050673>.
27. Aziz MA, Mattalia G, **Sulaiman N**, Shah AA, Polesny Z, Kalle R, Soukand R, Pieroni A. **2022**. The Nexus between Foraging and its Sustainability: A Qualitative Assessment among a Few Selected Eurasian Case Studies. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-022-02568-0>.
28. **Sulaiman N**, Pieroni A, Söukand R, Polesny Z. **2022**. Food Behavior in Emergency Time: Wild Plant Use for Human Nutrition during the Conflict in Syria. *Foods*, 11(2):177. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods11020177>.
29. Pieroni A, **Sulaiman N**, Polesny Z, Söukand R. **2022**. From *Şxex* to *Chorta*: The adaptation of Maronite foraging customs to the Greek ones in Kormakitis, Northern Cyprus. *Plants*, 11, 2693. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants11202693>.
30. **Sulaiman N**, Pieroni A, Söukand R, Whitney C, Polesny Z. **2021**. Socio-Cultural Significance of Yerba Maté among Syrian Residents and Diaspora. *Economic Botany*, 75, 97–111. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12231-021-09523-6>.

PUBLICATIONS (*Books/Chapters in international volumes*)

1. **Sulaiman N**, Aziz MA, Stryamets N, Mattalia G, Zocchi DM, Ahmed HM, Manduzai AK, Shah AA, Faiz A, Söukand R, Polesny Z, Pieroni A. The Importance of Becoming Tamed: Wild Food Plants as Possible Novel Crops in Selected Food Insecure Regions. In *Wild Plant Species as Potential Horticultural Crops: An Opportunity for Farmers and Consumers*, R Bulgari, A Baldi, A Lenzi, A Chrysargyris (Eds.). MDPI, Basel, Switzerland, **2023**, (pp.7-21). ISBN 978-3-0365-9671-6.
2. Pieroni A, **Sulaiman N**, Polesny Z, Söukand R. From *Sxex* to *Chorta*: The Adaptation of Maronite Foraging Customs to the Greek Ones in Kormakitis, Northern Cyprus. In *Historical Ethnobotany: Interpreting the Old Records*, R Söukand, R Kalle (Eds.). MDPI, Basel, Switzerland, **2023**, (pp.263-274). ISBN 978-3-0365-9398-2.

ORGANIZED CONFERENCES

- **ISGSS 2024**

[Pollenzo-Turin, Italy, 26/09/2024 – 28/09/2024]

I am a member of the organizing committee and scientific committee of the congress that is organized by *The International Society for Gastronomic Sciences and Studies*.

CONFERENCES (*Selected*)

- **5th ESP Europe Conference**

[Wageningen, The Netherlands, 18/11/2024 – 22/11/2024]

Oral presentation and poster presentation; the conference was organized by the *Ecosystem Services Partnership*.

- **119th Congress of the Italian Botanical Society**
[Teramo, Italy, 11/09/2024 – 13/09/2024]
Poster oral presentation; the conference was organized by the *University of Teramo*.
- **Ventenalle di Pollenzo 2024**
[Pollenzo, Italy, 30/05/2024 – 02/06/2024]
Poster presentation; the conference was organized by the *University of Gastronomic Sciences*.
- **Tropentag 2022**
[Prague, Czech Republic, 14/09/2022 – 16/09/2022]
Poster presentation; the conference was organized by the *Czech University of Life Sciences Prague*.
- **2nd International Agrobiodiversity Congress**
[Rome, Italy, 15/11/2021 – 18/11/2021]
Oral presentation; the congress was convened by the *Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation*, *CGIAR*, and the *Alliance of Biodiversity International and CIAT*, and organized in collaboration with a wide range of partner organizations.
- **Tropentag 2021**
[Stuttgart, Germany, 15/09/2021 – 17/09/2021]
Oral presentation; the conference was organized by the *University of Hohenheim*.
- **Sociocultural Dimensions and Interdisciplinary Projections: Plant Diversity towards Society**
[Sofia, Bulgaria, 21/11/2019 – 22/11/2019]
Oral presentation; the conference was organized by the *Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences*.
- **Tropentag 2019**
[Kassel, Germany, 18/09/2019 – 20/09/2019]
Member of the student reporters' team, and a co-author in two abstracts. The conference was organized by both the *University of Kassel* and the *University of Gottingen*.
- **Tropentag 2018**
[Ghent, Belgium, 17/09/2018 – 19/09/2019]
Oral presentation; the conference was organized by the *University of Ghent*.

PROJECTS

- **NODES I Nord Ovest Digitale e Sostenibile** (*Grant agreement no. ECS00000036*)
Project member - [08/2023 – current]
- **Ethnobotany of Neglected and Underutilized Plant Species in Tropical Agroecosystems** (*IGA FTZ 20223104*)
Project member - [04/2022 – 12/2022]
- **Increasing Productivity and Supporting the Development of Mango, Cassava and Organic Fertilizer Value Chains in Western Province, Zambia** (*Czech Development Agency & Caritas*)
Project member - [01/2020 – 12/2022]
- **Ethnobotany of Wild and Semi-domesticated Tropical and Subtropical Plant Species** (*IGA FTZ 20213113*)

Project member - [04/2021 – 10/2021]

- **Taxonomy, Ecology and Economic Botany of Tropical Underutilized Crops (IGA FTZ 20205009)**
Project member - [04/2020 – 12/2020]
- **Ethnobiology of Neglected and Underutilized Tropical Plant Species (IGA FTZ 20195009)**
Project member - [04/2019 – 12/2019]
- **Identification of Promising Species of Useful Plants as New Potential Sources of Food, Medicine and Materials through Ethnobiological Research (IGA FTZ 20185009)**
Project member - [04/2018 – 12/2018]

INVITED SPEAKER (*Workshops/ Events/ Lectures*)

- **Lecture – University of Primorska, Slovenia**
[12/02/20225]
Lecture. 5th Biological Evening: Ethnobiology of Wartime: The Role of Wild Plants in Food Security.
- **Workshop - Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy**
[16/04/2024]
Oral presentation. The workshop entitled “Why is Local Ecological Knowledge Crucial for Sustainability?” was organized by *Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics, Ca' Foscari University of Venice*.
- **Workshop –University of Turin, Italy**
[04/12/2023]
Oral Presentation. The workshop entitled “Future Food Day” was organized by the *University of Turin, Cuneo, Italy*.
- **Workshop - VUB-ULB, Belgium**
[20/01/2022]
Oral Presentation. The workshop entitled “Eating from the wild - Interdisciplinary perspectives on wild plant use and foraged food” was organized by *Brussels Institute for Advanced Studies, VUB-ULB*.
- **International Science Day – Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina**
[09/12/2021]
Oral Presentation. The event was organized by the *University of Mostar* and the *University of Dzemal Bijedić Mostar*, and sponsored by the *Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic*.
- **ArabFest - Pilsen, Czech Republic**
[04/04/2019 – 06/04/2019]
Oral Presentation. The festival was organized by the *University of West Bohemia*. I presented an oral presentation on Agricultural Sustainability in the Middle East.

AWARDS/ PRIZES

- **International Doctoral Award – Italian Botanical Society, Italy**
[12/09/2024]
I was awarded International Doctoral Award of the Italian Botanical Society 2024. The announcement will occur during the *119th Congress of the Italian Botanical Society*.

- **Prof. Stoklasy Award (*Shortlisted*) – Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic**
[31/10/2023]
The prestigious award of prof. Stoklasy is awarded by the university rector to the best doctoral thesis. My doctoral thesis was shortlisted.
- **Minister of Agriculture Prize (*Shortlisted*) – Ministry of Agriculture, Czech Republic**
[31/10/2023]
The prize is awarded by the Minister of Agriculture of Czech Republic to the best doctoral thesis. My doctoral thesis was shortlisted.

EDITORIAL AND REVIEW BOARD OF ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Member of the Editorial Board

[07/2021 – current]

Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine

Link: <https://ethnobiomed.biomedcentral.com/about>

Guest Editor of a Special Issue

[06/2024 – current]

Economic Botany

Link: <https://link.springer.com/journal/12231/updates/27201540>

Guest Editor of a Special Issue

[11/2024 – current]

Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine

Link: <https://www.biomedcentral.com/collections/HNW>

Peer Reviewer

04.2025 – current	<i>The European Biodiversity Partnership (Biodiversa+)</i>
04.2025 – current	<i>Economic Botany</i>
04.2025 – current	<i>Foods</i>
11.2024 – current	<i>Plant Biosystems</i>
11.2024 – current	<i>Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition</i>
11.2024 – current	<i>World</i>
11.2024 – current	<i>Acta Societatis Botanicorum Poloniae</i>
10.2024 – current	<i>Sustainability</i>
10.2024 – current	<i>Discover Foods</i>
09.2024 – current	<i>Wild</i>
07.2024 – current	<i>Plants</i>
02.2024 – current	<i>Agriculture and Human Values</i>
10.2023 – current	<i>Ethnobotany Research and Applications</i>
02.2023 – current	<i>Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution</i>
11.2022 – current	<i>Journal of Herbal Medicine</i>
05.2021 – current	<i>Evidence-based Complementary and Alternative Medicine</i>
02.2021 – current	<i>Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine</i>
11.2020 – current	Human Ecology