

PERSONAL INFORMATION **Ph. D. Agr. Loris Franco**

Sex Male | Date of birth

WORK EXPERIENCE**JUNE 2015- PRESENT****Agronomist consultant**

Via Amba Alagi n°10, 90129, Palermo (Pa), Italy

Activities:

Research and development consultancy; Agronomic technical assistance, with specialization in the design of irrigation systems and in the management of irrigation aimed at saving water through the use of monitoring systems of the Soil-Plant-Atmosphere system.

January 2020- Present**Research and technical-agronomic consultant**

Irritec S.p.a. Via G. Conforto, C.da Santa Lucia98071, Capo d'Orlando (Me), Italy.

Development of research activities on:

- new fertigation system with a sensors network and remote control;
- new irrigation products design and agronomical applications;

Technical-agronomic consultant on:

- advanced irrigation system design, irrigation management and application of irrigation deficit strategies;
- installations and use of the sensors network to monitoring the soil-plant-atmosphere system.

January 2023 - Present**Project Coordinator**

Research Project CN_0000022 “National Research Centre for Agricultural Technologies (Agritech)” finanziato dal Decreto Direttoriale di concessione del finanziamento n. 1032 del 17.06.2022 a valere sulle risorse del PNRR MUR – M4C2 – Investimento 1.4 - Avviso “Centri Nazionali” - D.D. n. 3138 del 16/12/2021 CUP: B13D21011580004 – IRRITEC S.p.A

Irritec S.p.a. Via G. Conforto, C.da Santa Lucia98071, Capo d'Orlando (Me), Italy.

Activities:

Planning, implementation and management of the research project; Coordination of research and development activities; Management of relations with project partners, consultants, research institutions, suppliers and stakeholder participating in the research project; Supervision in the reporting and Technical-Scientific annexes.

Task 3.2.4 Leader “Strategic planning and technologies for water, wastewater and nutrients reuse and recovery”

January 2021 - October 2023**Project Manager**

Project “WATER4AGRIFOOD – Miglioramento delle produzioni agroalimentari mediterranee in condizioni di carenza di risorse idriche” Codice progetto: ARS01_00825 CUP:B24E20000300005 – IRRITEC S.p.A

Irritec S.p.a. Via G. Conforto, C.da Santa Lucia98071, Capo d'Orlando (Me), Italy.

Activities:

Planning, implementation and management of the research project; Coordination of research and development activities; Management of relations with project partners, consultants, research institutions, suppliers and stakeholder participating in the research project; Supervision in the reporting and Technical-Scientific annexes.

June 2020 – December 2022**Research Collaborator**

University of Palermo, Dept. Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, Viale delle Scienze, Blg. 4, 90128 Palermo, Italy

Study on the applicability of the sub-surface irrigation method on citrus crops and optimization of the use of water resources; Statistical analysis and data processing regarding climatic, vegetative and productive parameters. Study on the effects of regulated water deficit irrigation on tree growth.

November 2016 - November 2019**Experimental field manager**

Irritec S.p.a. Via G. Conforto, C.da Santa Lucia98071, Capo d'Orlando (Me), Italy.

University of Palermo, Dept. Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, Viale delle Scienze, Blg. 4, 90128 Palermo, Italy.

Study on the applicability of the sub-surface irrigation method on citrus crops and optimization of the use of water resources; Hydraulic characterization of new and used drippers; Study of dripper occlusion phenomena; Statistical analysis and data processing regarding climatic, vegetative and productive parameters. Study on the effects of regulated water deficit irrigation on tree growth.

August 2015 – August 2018**Vice President – Project manager**

Consorzio di Difesa Dell'Agricoltura Siciliana S.r.l., (Codifas S.r.l.), via Houel 30, Palermo, Italy

Teaching program manager; Project manager, for national and international calls on social agriculture and social inclusion.

June 2015 – June 2016**Research Collaborator**

- University of Palermo, Dept. Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, Viale delle Scienze, Blg. 4, 90128 Palermo, Italy
 Collaboration in viticulture research; laboratory determination of chemical-physical characteristics of grapes; statistical analysis and data processing of climatic, vegetative and productive parameters of grape cultivation.
- October 2015 – November 2015 Consultant**
 Research consortium, Sicilia AgroBio e Pesca ecocompatibile S.c.a.r.l, Viale delle Scienze, Blg. 8, 90128 Palermo, Italy
 Consultancy on statistical analysis and processing of data concerning the climatic, vegetative and production parameters of table grape soilless cultivation.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 2016 - 2019 Ph.D. on “Agricultural, Food, Forest and Environmental Sciences”,
 Thesis “Assessing the suitability of sub-surface drip irrigation on citrus crops and optimization of crop water use”
 University of Palermo, Italy
- January 2015 National qualification to the profession of agronomist and forestry doctor
 University of Palermo, Italy
- 2012 - 2014 Master's degree in Agro-engineering, degree in agricultural and forestry sciences and technologies
 University of Palermo, Italy, voting 110/110 with honors
 Advanced irrigation network design; agronomic skills; green house and soilless crops management; phytoremediation; biomass and energy crops managements;
- 2009 - 2012 Bachelor's degree in Agro-engineering, degree in agricultural and forestry sciences and technologies ;
 Agronomic skills; irrigation network design; rural and livestock buildings desing; management of crops and livestock breeding; agronomic extimation;

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) Italian

Other language(s)	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2
Spanish	A2	A2	A2	A2	A2

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2: Proficient user
 Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

- Communication skills** Team work: I have worked in various types of teams from research teams to urban garden management team;
 Conference speaker: I spoke in various national and international conferences and seminar.
- Organisational / managerial skills** Administration of Co-operative Company: Vice President of Codifas s.r.l.
 Teaching program manager: Development of teaching projects on social agriculture and social inclusion for students from primary to university.
 Project manager: national and international calls on social agriculture and research project, coordination of staff on specific project objectives;
- Professional sikkills** Agronomic consultancy; Research; Analytical/strategic thinking; Prototyping; CAD; Irrigation network design; Team Skills; Public Speaking;
- Computer skills** Competent with most Microsoft Office programmes (Word, Excel; PowerPoint, ecc.) and CAD programmes;
 Experience with: ArcGIS e Qgis; Matlab, R; ImageJ.
- Driving licence** B

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- From 2019 Member of “International Society for Horticultural Science”
 From 2015 Member of “Ordine dei Dottori Agronomi e dei dottori Forestali” of Catania
 Identificative number N° 1398
- Sensory analysis** Enrolled in the national list of technicians and expert tasters of extra virgin and virgin olive oils;
 Member of certification extra virgin olive oil IGP Sicily Panel test.

PUBBLICATIONS

- Segovia-Cardozo, D. A., Franco, L., & Provenzano, G. (2022). Detecting crop water requirement indicators in irrigated agroecosystems from soil water content profiles: An application for a citrus orchard. *Science of The Total Environment*, 806, 15049
- Franco L., Motisi A. and Provenzano G. (2019). “Evaluation of subsurface drip irrigation emitters on a split-root container-grow citrus rootstock (citrango carrizo)”. *Acta Horticulturae. ISHS “IX International Symposium on Irrigation of Horticulural Crops”*, Matera, 17-20/06/2019
- Franco L., Giardina G., Tuler J., Motisi A., and Provenzano G. (2019). “Subsurface Drip Irrigation and ICT for the Innovative Irrigation Water Management: Application to a Citrus Crop (C. reticulata cv. Tardivo di Ciaculli)”. *Acta Horticulturae. ISHS “IX International Symposium on Irrigation of Horticulural Crops”*, Matera, 17-20/06/2019

- Franco L., Motisi A., Provenzano G. (2019). "Agro-hydrological models and field measurements to assess the water status of citrus tree irrigated with micro-sprinkler and subsurface drip systems". Acta Horticulturae. ISHS "International Symposium on Precision Management of Orchards and Vineyards", Palermo 7-11/10/19
- Motisi A., Franco L., Minacapilli M., Provenzano G. (2018). "Un modello tridimensionale dell'intercettazione della radiazione solare degli impianti arborei per la stima del coefficiente culturale". Acta Italus Hortus abstracts, 23, p. 30, ISBN: 978-88-940276-8-6
- Provenzano, G., Franco, L., Camboni, F., & Toker, J. (2018). "Implementing a cyber-physical system to monitor soil water status and environmental variables for irrigation scheduling". EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts, Vol. 20, p. 12636
- Franco L., Motisi A., Provenzano G. (2019). "Identifying the threshold of soil water content for the precise irrigation scheduling of a Citrus orchard under subsurface drip irrigation". EGU General Assembly Conference Abstracts, Vol. 21, p. 1304
- Franco L., Motisi A., Provenzano G. (2019). "Effects of different irrigation methods and volumes of watering on water status and summer vegetative growth of citrus trees". Atti del convegno AIIA "Processi idrologici ed erosivi nei sistemi agrari ed ambientali", Sassari, 6-7/06/19
- Maltese A., Franco L., Capodici F., Ciraolo G., Alekseychik P., Frances F., Manfreda S., Motisi A. (2019). "Bridging the gap between ground-based sampling, and airborne/satellite remote sensing via UAS proximity sensing: the experimental case of Citrus reticulata". Atti della Conferenza 2019 della Federazione Italiana delle Associazioni Scientifiche per le Informazioni Territoriali e Ambientali, Trieste, 12-14/11/2019
- Maltese A., Alekseychik P., Capodici F., Ciraolo G., Dal Sasso S., Frances F., Franco L., Gugliuzza G., Lilienthal H., Lo Brutto M., Manfreda S., McCabe M., Motisi A., Malbeteau Y., Provenzano G., Tmušić G. and Ziliani M. (2019). "Bridging the gap between in situ measurements and proximity sensing via UAS: an experimental case for the Vegetation Monitoring". Atti della Harmonious General Assembly, Coimbra, Portugal, 6/11/19

Palermo 05/12/2023

Signature: