



Prof. Dr. Irina Druzhinina
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Prof. Dr. Irina Druzhinina obtained her background education in mycology and algology. She then became a doctor of natural sciences at the University of Vienna, Austria, specializing in Botany. Shortly after, she joined the Vienna University of Technology (Austria), where she defended her Habilitation Thesis on Microbiology and later obtained a position of Associate Professor in the Institute of Chemical, Environmental and Biological Engineering (ICEBE). Since 2002 her Research Group Microbiology and Fungal Genomics studied molecular evolution, ecophysiology, and ecological genomics of industrially relevant fungi, particularly from the order Hypocreales and the genus *Trichoderma*.

In 2018, she was appointed a Full Professor at the Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, China. In this school, Irina continued researching ecological genomics of fungi, fungal - fungal interactions, mycoparasitism, and the role of ROS and surface-active proteins in fungal physiology and development.

Irina Druzhinina is a member of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Fungi (ICTF, IUMS), the chair of the International Committee of *Trichoderma* Taxonomy (ICTT), and an editor in the Applied and Environmental Microbiology (AEM) journal and several other scientific journals.