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Researcher

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Education and Professional Experience

2015: Researcher (temporary position)

1993-1995: PhD in Crop Productivity, University of Sassari, Italy.

1990-1992: Research Fellow at Centre of Studies on Mediterranean Pastures-CNR, Sassari.

1988: Second level Degree in Agricultural Sciences, University of Sassari, Italy.

Keywords

Ecophysiology of pastures, Germplasm collection and evaluation,

Sylvopastoral ecosystems, Seed bank dynamics

Selected publications (max 20)

1. G. Moreno. S. Aviron S. Berg J. Crous-Duran **A. Franca** S. García de Jalón T. Hartel J. Mirck A. Pantera J. H. N. Palma J. A. Paulo G. A. Re F. Sanna C. Thenail A. Varga V. Viaud P. J, 2018 Burgess Agroforestry systems of high nature and cultural value in Europe: provision of commercial goods and other ecosystem services. *Agroforestry systems Volume 92, Pages 877-891 (Print) ISSN: 0167-4366*
2. **Franca, Antonello**; Re, Giovanni Antonio; Sanna, Federico, 2018 Effects of grazing exclusion and environmental conditions on the soil seed bank of a Mediterranean grazed oak wood pasture. *Agroforestry systems Volume 92, Pages 909-919 (Print) ISSN: 0167-4366*
3. Camilli F.; Pisanelli A.; Seddaiu G.; **Franca A.**; Bondesan V.; Rosati A.; Moreno G.M.; Pantera A.; Hermansen J.E.; Burgess P.J, 2018 *How local stakeholders perceive agroforestry systems: an Italian perspective. Agroforestry systems Volume 92, Pages 1-14 (Print) ISSN: 0167-4366*
4. R.A.M. Melis, **A. Franca**, G.A.Re, C.Porqueddu, 2017. Bio-agronomic characterization and implications on the potential use as forage of *Bituminaria bituminosa* and *B. morisiana* accessions. *Grass and forage science (Print) ISSN: 0142-5242 Blackwell Scientific Publications*
5. Enrico Vagnoni, **Antonello Franca**, Claudio Porqueddu, Pierpaolo Duce, 2017. Environmental profile of Sardinian sheep milk cheese supply chain: a comparison between two contrasting dairy systems. *Journal of cleaner production Volume 165, Pages 1078-1089 ISSN: 0959-6526 Butterworth-Heinemann*
6. E. Vagnoni, **A. Franca**, L. Breedveld, C. Porqueddu, R. Ferrara, P. Duce, 2015. Environmental performances of Sardinian dairy sheep production systems at different input levels. *Science of The Total Environment, Volume 502, 1 January 2015, Pages 354-361.*
7. Moreno, **A. Franca**, M.T. Pinto Correia and S. Godinho, 2014. Multifunctionality and dynamics of silvopastoral systems.. In: Forage resources and ecosystem services provided by Mountain and

Mediterranean grasslands and rangelands (Editors: R. Baumont, P. Carrère, M. Jouven, G. Lombardi, A. López-Francos, B. Martin, A. Peeters, C. Porqueddu), Proceedings of the joint meeting of the “Mountain Pastures, Mediterranean Forage Resources (FAO-CIHEAM) and Mountain Cheese” networks, Clermont-Ferrand, France, 24-26 June 2014, *Options Méditerranéennes*, Series A: Mediterranean Seminars, no.109, 421-436

8. Re GA, Piluzza G, Sulas L, **Franca A**, Porqueddu C, Sanna F, Bullitta S., 2014. Condensed tannins accumulation and nitrogen fixation potential of *Onobrychis viciifolia* Scop. grown in a Mediterranean environment. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*, 639-645
9. A. Loi, **A. Franca**, B. J. Nutt, R. J. Yates, M. F. D’Antuono and J. G. Howieson, 2014. Important ecological traits for selecting *Biserrula pelecinus* L. (*biserrula*) genotypes for their potential introduction into agricultural systems. *Grass and Forage Science*, doi: 10.1111/gfs.12139
10. Sanna F., Franca A., Porqueddu C., Piluzza G., Re G. A., Sulas L., Bullitta S., 2014. Characterization of native perennial ryegrasses for persistence in mediterranean rainfed conditions. *Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research*, [S.l.], v. 12, n. 4, p. 1110-1123, oct. 2014. ISSN 2171-9292.
11. Porqueddu, C., Re, G. A., Sanna, F., Piluzza, G., Sulas, L., **Franca**, A. and Bullitta, S. (2013), Exploitation of annual and perennial herbaceous species for the rehabilitation of a sand quarry in a Mediterranean environment. *Land Degrad. Dev.*. doi: 10.1002/ldr.2235
12. Porqueddu. C., **Franca A.**, Sulas L., 2010. A second generation of pasture legumes: an opportunity for improving the biodiversity in farming systems of Mediterranean basin? , in: (Porqueddu C., Rios S., eds) The contributions of grasslands to the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity, *Options Méditerranéennes*, Series A: Mediterranean Seminars 2010 – 2010, Number 92, p. 241-247
13. **Franca**, F. Sanna, G. Seddaiu, S. Caredda, 2008. The seed bank dynamics as a tool for evaluating the pasture improvement efficiency in a Mediterranean environment. *Italian Journal of Agronomy* Vol. 3, No 3 supplement, pp. 371-372.
14. **Franca**, A., Porqueddu, C., Dettori, D., 2007. Evaluating new grass-legume mixtures for pasture improvement in a semi-arid environment.

Proceedings of the 14th EGF Symposium on Permanent and temporary grassland: plant, environment and economy. In: De Vliegheer A. and Carlier L. (eds.) *Grassland Science in Europe* vol. 12, 43-46

15. Sulas, L., Franca, A., Caredda, S., 2000. Persistence and regeneration mechanisms in forage legumes, Proceedings of the 10th Meeting of the Mediterranean Sub-network of the FAO-CIHEAM Inter-regional Cooperative Research and Development Network on Pastures and Fodder Crops 'Legumes for Mediterranean forage crops, pastures and alternative use's, Sassari, Italy, 4-9-April 2000. In: *Cahiers – Option Méditerranéennes*, Vol. 45, pp. 331-342.
16. Franca A., Loi, A., Davies, W.D., 1998. Selection of annual ryegrass for adaptation to semi-arid conditions, *European Journal of Agronomy*, 9 (1998), 71-78.