

Dear Colleagues,

As the Editor-in-Chief of *Horticulturae*, it is my great pleasure to announce the winner of the 2023 Best PhD Thesis Award. This award is for a PhD student or recently qualified PhD who has produced a highly anticipated thesis with great academic potential.

2023 BEST PHD THESIS AWARD

WINNER

The award has been granted to:

Optimization of the quanti-qualitative production of basil destined for the preparation of "Genovese Pesto" By Michele Ciriello, University of Naples Federico II, Italy.

Dr. Michele Ciriello will receive CHF 500, an electronic certificate, and a chance to publish a paper free of charge after peer review in *Horticulturae* in 2024.

On behalf of the evaluation committee, I congratulate the winner on his accomplishments. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the applicants for submitting their exceptional theses, and the Award Committee for voting and helping with this award.

Prof. Dr. Luigi De Bellis Editor-in-Chief, *Horticulturae*



