



OPTIMA



Organization for the Phyto-Taxonomic Investigation of the Mediterranean Area

Chemin de l'Impératrice 1 – CH-1292 Chambésy, SWITZERLAND

Secretariat: *Herbarium Mediterraneum*, Via Lincoln, 4 – I-90133 Palermo, ITALY – Tel. (+39) 09123891209 – E-mail: secre@optima-bot.org

XVIII OPTIMA Meeting

22-26 September 2026 (Cappadocia, TÜRKİYE)

OPTIMA (Organization for the Phyto-Taxonomic Investigation of the Mediterranean Area)

First Circular

Dear Colleagues,

We invite you to join us in **Cappadocia (Nevşehir, Türkiye) in September 2026**. Be assured that we will organize the meeting in full compliance with its successful tradition, meaning that it will be both pleasant and scientifically rewarding. Come and take back with you an unforgettable memory. Cappadocia awaits you with its unique natural and cultural treasures and traditional hospitality.

K. Hüsnu Can Başer, Ferhat Celep, and Müberra Koşar

WEB SITE: [HTTPS://OPTIMA2026.ORG/](https://optima2026.org/)

YOU CAN CONTACT US AT

info@optima2026.org



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Important Information

Location: The XVIII OPTIMA Meeting will take place in Cappadocia (Nevşehir, Türkiye).

Venue: Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University, Vali Şinasi Kuş Culture and Congress Center, Nevşehir, Türkiye

Important Dates:

22 September: Joint Meeting of the Executive Council & International Board of OPTIMA (restricted)

22-25 September: Scientific programme (see web site).

26 September: Post-Meeting excursion (Salt Lake Region/Aksaray).

DEADLINES:

15 July 2026: Payment of (regular) registration fee

1 July 2026: Reception of abstracts

Cancellation with full refund will be possible before **15 July 2026**.

Registration fee-EUR

No.	Category	Payment in Euros	
		Regular (15 th July 2026)	Late (15 th July-22 nd September 2026)
1	Regular OPTIMA Members	250	300
2	Non-members	300	350
3	Accompanying persons	100	125
4	Students (provided with certification)	100	150

Registration fee covers

Registration fee for early-bird and standard registration includes: Digital book of abstracts and other printed documents coffee breaks, lunches, Welcome cocktail according to the programme.

The fee for the accompanying person includes: get together event, lunches. Admittance to the scientific sessions is not included.

The **conference dinner** and **post meeting excursion**, if desired, will be charged in addition with a contribution of 50 and 25 euros respectively.

Official language: English



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SYMPOSIA AND CONVENORS

1. Integrating Omics and Bioengineering Approaches in Plant Science (Erdal Bedir)
 2. Sustainable Usage and Conservation of Mediterranean Plants (Fatih Demirci, Tiziana Ulian)
 3. Recent Floristic Studies in Mediterranean Countries (Neriman Özhatay, Nate Ina Aneva)
 4. Chemical Diversity of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants and Their Health Benefits (İhsan Çalış, Ekaterina Kozhuharova)
 5. Recent Advances in Lamiaceae Science (Ferhat Celep, Chunlei Xiang, Bryan Drew)
 6. Alien Plants and Their Impact in The Mediterranean Area (Jordi López-Pujol, Olja Vasic)
 7. New Natural Sources for Medicinal Usage: Marine Organisms, Fungi, Endophytes, Etc. (İlkay Erdoğan Orhan, Giuseppe Venturella)
 8. Biosystematics in The Mediterranean Area (Young Scientist Symposium) (Karol Marhold, Christoph Oberprieler, Lorenzo Peruzzi)
 9. Beyond Preservation: The Evolving Functions of Mediterranean Herbaria (Adil Güner, Mark Carine)
 10. Integrative Taxonomy (Ilgaz Akata, Dr. Errol Vela)
 11. Mediterranean Forests: Ecology & Challenges (Ünal Akkemik, Bruno Fady)
 12. Molecular Studies May Provide Help to Systematic Taxonomy (Barış Özüdoğru, Christoph Oberprieler)
- The symposia organizers are inviting the speakers in these days to form the final programme.
 - Consult the preliminary program to see the list of symposia and schedule. The titles of the oral contributions proposed by you will be sent to the organizers to be examined.

Hurry up so you don't miss out!

PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION FORM

AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: [HTTPS://OPTIMA2026.ORG/REGISTRATION/](https://optima2026.org/registration/)