

Prof. MASSIMO AVIAN

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Massimo Avian, born in Trieste on 21/12/1954. Graduated in Biological Sciences in March 1981, at the University of Trieste, with 110/110 cum laude, discussing an experimental thesis in Paleontology. In 1981-83 fellow at the Laboratory of Analysis of the Pneumological Hospital S. Santorio in Trieste, in the department of Cytology and Histology; from 1984-1999 researcher of zoology at the Department of Biology of the University of Trieste. Since 2000 associate professor of zoology (SSD BIO/05) at the Faculty of Sciences MM FF NN, belonging first to the Department of Biology, then to the newly established Department of Life Sciences, University of Trieste. His scientific interests mainly concern the reproductive, systematic biology, histology and ultrastructure of scypho- and cube jellyfish; morphology, ultrastructure and systematics of the nematocysts of cnidarians, as well as their toxicology and their effects on humans. He also deals with the reproductive biology of *Esox lucius* in the Friuli plain, as well as with the morphology and morphometry of the otoliths of the fresh-growing cyprinids of the region. He also worked on cytological analyzes in relation to the accumulation of Okadaic acid and derivatives in the digestive gland of *Mytilus galloprovincialis*. In these areas he was the owner or co-owner of various research funds, including 40% and PRIN of the MIUR, research funds of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, UNEP-MAP funds. Since 2006, as part of the Dryades Project, he has begun to deal with the preparation of databases and digital interactive guides on the characteristics of organisms belonging to the Phylum Cnidaria, and more precisely on nematocysts. Since 2008/09, the development of a digital system for the morpho-anatomical identification of all jellyfish belonging to the Scyphozoa, Cubozoa and Staurozoa classes has been underway. Since 2009 he has been involved in a collaboration with the Rosenfeld sponge factory to analyze and verify the feasibility of commercial sponge farms in the Gulf of Trieste and in the Bahamas (Is. Eleuthera). Since 2013 he has collaborated with the National Institute of Biology (NIB) of Piran, Slovenia, and with the OGS of Trieste on research on the taxonomy and phylogeny of scyphomedusae. Since 2017 he has also collaborated with the ICMAN institute of Cadiz (Spain) and with the University of Montpellier (France) on the same issues. As part of these activities, he has participated as a speaker in numerous national and international conferences, as well as contributed to the organization and editor of two international workshops (Workshop on jelly-fish in the Mediterranean Sea, Trieste, 3-4 / 9/1984; Workshop on jelly-fish in the Mediterranean Sea, Trieste, 2- 5/9/1987). He also deals with issues related to educational dissemination by holding various conferences, articles of a popular nature, interviews, etc. Since 2010 he has managed and coordinated the dissemination activity called "Coffee of Sciences - nature in showcase" in Trieste, since 2017 also in Gorizia. He was coordinator from 2013 to 2015 of the Bachelor's Degree course in Science and Technology for the Environment and Nature (STAN). He was delegated for the Department of Life Sciences (DSV) to coordinate the programmed number test for the three-year degrees of STAN, STB and CHEMISTRY from 2013 to 2016, and in 2019. He was delegate for the Department of Life Sciences (DSV) for guidance, sector of Environmental Biology, 2016-2018. He is the author / co-author of about eighty scientific publications. He is referee of various international journals with impact factor, and review activity of projects of national importance. He is involved in teaching the Lt Degrees of Biological Sciences and Technologies and Sciences and Technologies for the Environment and Nature, of which he was coordinator from 2013-2016. He is chairman of the exam commission for scheduled number tests for

Lt managed by the Department of Life Sciences. He is the contact person for the orientation of the Biological-Environmental area of the aforementioned department.

Publicazioni

A complete list of publications and metric indices is available at the following links:

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5562-6471>

Google Scholar:

https://scholar.google.it/citations?view_op=list_works&hl=it&user=KuQFGK8AAAAJ

SCOPUS: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6507212261>

Research gate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Massimo_Avian

Below are some of the most representative publications

1. M. Avian, A. Ramšak, V. Tirelli, I. D'Ambra and A. Malej Redescription of *Pelagia benovici* into a new jellyfish genus, *Mawia*, gen. nov., and its phylogenetic position within Pelagiidae (Cnidaria : Scyphozoa : Semaestomeae). *Invertebrate Systematics*, 2016, 30, 523–546
2. T. Viver, L.H. Orellana, J.K. Hatt, M. Urdiain, S. Diaz, M. Richter, J. Anton, M. Avian, R. Amann, K.T. Konstantinidis, R. Rossello-Mora The low diverse gastric microbiome of the jellyfish *Cotylorhiza tuberculata* is dominated by four novel taxa. *Environmental Microbiology* (2017) 19(8), 3039–3058
3. D. Bonnet, R. Marques, S. Soriano, S. Colantoni, A. Ligier, J. Constensoux, V. Torboli, V. Macaluso, M. Avian, Determining *Obelia* spp. diversity and population dynamics in Thau lagoon (Northwestern Mediterranean Sea, France). 8th EUROLAG European Coastal Lagoons Symposium Book of Abstracts, 2018.
4. M. Bertoli, P.G. Giulianini, C. Boschian, A. Pallavicini, V. Torboli, M. Avian, E. Pizzul Aspetti della biologia ed analisi del ciclo riproduttivo di *Gobio benacensis* (Pollini, 1816) nel Nordest Italia. *It J Freshwater Ichthyology*, 2019, 5, 102-119
5. Avian M. & Ramšak A. *Invertebrate Zoology: A Tree of Life Approach*, chap 9, Classes Scyphozoa, Cubozoa, Staurozoa. (2020) CRC Taylor & Francis, in press.