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Plant Biology

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Pierdomenico Perata is professor of plant physiology at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa (Italy), where since 2012 he is Rector of the university. He previously was a scientist working at the universities of Pisa (1991-1999), Bari (1999-2000) and Modena (2000-2004) and in Japan, at Nagoya University (1996-1997). In 1994 he received the "FESPB Award", which is awarded by the Federation of European Societies of Plant Physiology (FESPB) Congress for excellence in scientific achievements. His publication record includes papers in the most important plant science journals, including *Nature*, *Nature Communications*, *Nature Plants*, *PLOS Biology*, *The Plant Cell*, *The Plant Journal*, *Plant Physiology*, *Trends in Plant Science* and many others, which received over 8000 citations. His research interests include plant stress physiology, plant hormone physiology, and sugar sensing and signaling. He has discovered and shown experimentally that starch metabolism represents an essential metabolic intersection for plants' tolerance to hypoxia. Other noteworthy discoveries that he contributed towards include the cross-communication between plant hormones and metabolic signals and the oxygen sensing mechanism in plants.