Youssef Rouphael was awarded a Diploma in Agriculture in 1995 at the University Holy-Spirit of Kaslik (USEK), Lebanon, a Post-Graduate Specialization Program (DSPU) in 1996 on Land and Water Resources Management: Irrigated Agriculture, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute (MAI) of Bari, Italy, a Master in Irrigation in 1997 from MAI Bari, Italy, and a PhD in Horticulture in 2003 from the University of Tuscia, Viterbo Italy. He was then a Post-Doc fellow at the same University for 5 years (2003-2008). Later Prof. Rouphael was Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Veterinary Medicine (Lebanese University). From 2014 he is affiliated at the Department of Agricultural Sciences, University Federico II Naples (Italy) as RTD-b, From August 2015 to January 2016 he was a Visiting Scientist at the Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops Großbeeren/Erfurt (Germany). In 2016 he became an Associate Professor of Horticulture. From 2021 he is a Full Professor of Horticulture at the Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Naples, Federico II.

He is the actual Chair of the Division of Protected Cultivation and Soilless Culture at the International Society of Horticultural Science.

The main research activity and interests of Youssef Rouphael focus on greenhouse crops with emphasis on the importance of pre-harvest factors to improve vegetable quality, plant nutrition, water and irrigation management, soilless production of vegetables and ornamentals in particular substrates, microgreens for space cultivation, role of vegetable grafting, beneficial microorganisms (arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi) and plant biostimulants in particular protein hydrolysate, seaweed extracts and microalgae in horticultural plants under optimal and sub-optimal stress conditions (drought, salinity and nutrient stress).

Youssef Rouphael teach several courses such as protected cultivation, vegetable crops production, soilless culture and supervised several Master and PhD students, post-doc and foreign researchers.

In 2012 and 2016 he had the Habilitation (ASN) for both Associate and Full Professor Positions for the 07/B1 scientific sector.

He has been involved in 15 competitive grant national and international projects, acting also as coordinator (1) and WP leader (7).

He is Section Editor-in-Chief of Agronomy MDPI and Editor-in-Chief of Open Life Sciences. Youssef Rouphael served as Guest Editor of the following Special Issues dealing with PLANT BIOSTIMULANTS in Scientia Horticulturae 'Biostimulants in Horticulture', Guest Editor in Frontiers in Plant Science for the two Research Topics 'Biostimulants in Agriculture' and 'Biostimulants in Agriculture II: Towards a Sustainable Future', Guest Editor in Agronomy MDPI for the two Special Issue 'Toward a Sustainable Agriculture Through Plant Biostimulants: From Experimental Data to Practical Applications' and 'Biostimulants as Physiological Modulators of Crop Performance and Product Quality. He is also Associate Editor of Scientia Horticulturae, Frontiers in Plant Science, Spanish Journal of Agricultural Research, The Open Agriculture Journal, Italus Hortus and member of the Advisory Editorial Board of Agricultural Water Management, Frontiers in Plant Science for the following two sections: Plant Breeding and Crop and Product Physiology.

He is a member of the scientific committee of Biostimulant.com (https://www.biostimulant.com/).

He is the Editor of the first International book on biostimulants: Rouphael, Y., du Jardin, P., Brown, P., De Pascale, S., Colla, G. (ed.), Biostimulants for sustainable agriculture, Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing, Cambridge, UK, 2020, (ISBN: 978 1 78676 336 5; www. Bdpublishing.com) (<u>https://shop.bdspublishing.com/store/bds/detail/workgroup/3-190-84222</u>).

He is the Editor of the first national book on biostimulants: Biostimolanti per un'Agricoltura Sostenibile: Cosa sono, come agiscono e modalità di utilizzo (ISBN: 978-88-7220-391-0). Eds: G. Colla, Y. Rouphael. Edizioni L'Informatore Agrario s.r.l., Verona, Italia (maggio 2019), pp.189. (http://www.ediagroup.it/ita/Libri/scheda.asp?ID=391-0). Based on a recent study (May 2020 and also May 2021 and 2022) conducted by the Stanford University on the entire SCOPUS database including 7 million researchers and in published the journal Plos **Biology** (https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.3000384), Youssef ROUPHAEL was included among the 100,000 most influential researchers in the world (Researchers Among World's Top 2% Scientists).

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