Prof. David Collinge

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David B Collinge is professor of Plant Pathology at the University of Copenhagen, where he has worked since 1987. BSPP President-Elect and Chair of the Fellowship Committee and also on the board of DSPS – the tiny Danish Society for Pests and Diseases.

After a BSc (Hons) and PhD in genetics from Liverpool and Newcastle Upon Tyne, he moved first to Arhus University and subsequently to the (then) John Innes Institute in Norwich where his research interests on defence mechanisms in plants interests on defence mechanisms in plants were kindled. In Copenhagen, this research interest led to many discoveries on the roles of different components of defences ranging from antimicrobial proteins to NAC transcription factors and CRK receptor-like protein kinases – and H2O2 – the DAB method. The potential application of that knowledge has led to efforts in explaining the means that biotechnological approaches, especially transgenic can be used to provide plant protection. Wiley published his book on this in 2016 and he is active in the public debate in Denmark. In the context of two Marie Curie ITNs, the research group now focusses on the nature and biology of endophytes with the applied aspect of developing novel biological control agents for disease and abiotic stress tolerance.

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