

Program for Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards in Agriculture

Internal Ref # 2	Title of Research Project 1: Characterize thermotolerance mechanisms in tomato pollen - for improving yield under heat-stress conditions
Project Leader: Dr. Nurit Firon	Email : vcfiron@volcani.agri.gov.il Phone : 972-506220735
Institute: The Volcani Center, Agricultural Research Organization. Department: Institute of Plant Sciences, Dept. of Vegetable Research.	
The research team (other scientists):	
Short Description of Research Project (3-5 lines): My group works on sexual plant reproduction in <i>Solanaceae</i> members, with emphasis on pollen biology and pollen thermotolerance mechanisms, aiming at improving yield under heat-stress conditions. In order to identify pollen thermotolerance mechanisms in tomato, we have generated a database of pollen heat-stress-responsive (HSR) genes. The results point to involvement of hormones, as well as genes that regulate pollen-specific functions, in pollen thermotolerance. The objective of the research project is thus to characterize the involvement of these factors in HSR and thermotolerance during tomato pollen development and germination.	
Required Qualifications of Visiting Scientist: <i>Education:</i> <i>Scientific Experience:</i> <i>Plant molecular biology. Plant physiology.</i> <i>Abilities and Skills:</i> Fluent English (reading & writing).	