

# CURRICULUM VITAE

October 30, 2018

## NAMES

**Dèdéou Apocalypse Tchokponhoué (MSc)**

## TITLE, RESPONSIBILITY, AND ACADEMIC AFFILIATION

PhD student

School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences,  
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg Campus, South Africa.

Laboratory of Genetics, Horticulture and Seed Science (GBioS),  
University of Abomey-Calavi, Republic of Benin.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## EDUCATION / BACKGROUND

**2018 - Present:** PhD student, Plant Breeding, School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences,  
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg Campus, South Africa.

**2014 - 2016:** Master of Science, Biotechnology and Plant Breeding, School of Plant Sciences, Faculty of  
Agronomic Sciences (FSA), University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Republic of Benin.

**2009 - 2012:** Bachelor of Science, Faculty of Statistics and Econometrics (FASEG), University of Abomey-  
Calavi (UAC), Republic of Benin.

**2008 - 2012:** Bachelor of Science, Crop Science, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences (FSA), University of  
Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Republic of Benin.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Plant Breeding & Physiology, Horticulture, and Seed Science.

## MOST RECENT SPECIFIC TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

**October 2018:** Plant Breeding E-Learning in Africa's Professional Learning Community Workshop:  
Polished Presentations, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Organized by Iowa State University  
and University of KwaZulu-Natal. South Africa.

**September 2018:** Molecular Laboratory Training Workshop, Department of Plant Sciences, University of  
Cambridge, UK.

**July 2018:** British Council Researcher Links Workshop: "Breeding and modelling underutilized crops for  
community resilience" funded through the Newton Fund and South Africa's National Research Foundation  
(NRF), University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

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**February-March 2018:** Regional Workshop on tree improvement and seed collection for West and Central Africa. African Forest Forum, Niamey, Niger.

**June 2017:** Response surface and mixture designs: principles and applications in R. The Laboratory of Biomathematics and Forest Estimations (LABEF), Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin.

**April-May 2017:** ASIRA (Access to Scientific Information Resources in Agriculture) Online Course for low-income countries, 2nd edition.

**January – June 2016:** Plant Breeding Class: Quantitative genetics with application in R. Organized by Laboratory of Genetics, Horticulture and Seed Sciences (GBioS), University of Abomey-Calavi.

**December 2014:** Training course on “Resilient seed systems and adaptation to climate change”. Bioversity International, West and Central Africa Office, Abomey-Calavi, Benin.

## RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

**Feb 2018 – Present: Research fellow**, School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

**Jul 2012 – Present: Research assistant**, Laboratory of Genetics, Horticulture and Seed Sciences (GBioS), Faculty of Agronomic Sciences (FSA), University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Benin.

**April– May 2014: Associate Consultant**. Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources, Togo. Project “Developing a management plan for wetlands in the Zio Watershed”.

Role in the Project: **Supervising ethnobiological data collection.**

**Aug 2013-April 2014. Associate consultant**. Bioversity International, West & Central Africa Office, Benin. Project “Current and potential role of local biodiversity in meeting nutritional needs of infants and young children”.

Role in the Project: **Supervising ethnobiological data collection and contributing to analysis.**

**Aug - Sept 2012. Field Assistant**. Bioversity International, West & Central Africa Office, Benin. Project “The effects of market integration on the nutritional contributions of traditional foods to the wellbeing of the rural poor in Africa”.

Role in the Project: **Assisting the main consultant in ethnobiological data collection and handling of voucher specimen.**

## CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUM

**September 11th, 2018.** UK-Africa Food Security Symposium, University of Cambridge.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

**2018 First Prize of “Bio-innovation for Africa” pitching competition** organized by JR Biotek Foundation at the UK-Africa Food Security Symposium held at the University of Cambridge, UK, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**2018 JR Biotek Foundation and University of Cambridge Scholarship for outstanding Africa based PhD students** involved in agricultural research to participate in world-class Molecular Laboratory Training Workshop and UK-Africa Food Security Symposium held at the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**2017 Intra Africa Mobility PhD Scholarship (Enhancing training and research mobility for novel crops breeding in Africa** (MoBreed, [www.mobreed.com](http://www.mobreed.com))), University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

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**2016 First Prize of the Innovation and Science Week Contest.** University of Abomey-Calavi, Abomey-Calavi, Benin; April 4th, 2016.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-review articles

- ▶ Tchokponhoué D.A., Achigan-Dako E.G., N'Danikou S., Houdegbe C. A., Agossou C.A.O., Assogba-Komlan F. and Vodouhè R.S. **2018**. Regeneration ability and Seedling growth in the miracle plant *Synsepalum dulcificum* (Schumach. & Thonn.) Daniell. *Fruits* 73(1):13-21. <https://doi.org/10.17660/th2018/73.1.2>.
- ▶ Houdegbe C. A., Tchokponhoué D. A., Sogbohossou O. E. D., Zoundjhekpou J., Achigan-Dako E. G. **2018**. Current status and future of genetically modified crops in Benin. *IOBC-WPRS Bulletin* 131: 33-40.
- ▶ Tchokponhoué D.A., N'Danikou S., Hale I., Van Deynze A. and Achigan-Dako E.G. **2017**. Early fruiting in *Synsepalum dulcificum* (Schumach. & Thonn.) Daniell juveniles induced by water and inorganic nutrient management. *F1000 Research*. 03/2017; 6: 399.
- ▶ Achigan-Dako E.G., Tchokponhoué D.A., N'Danikou S., Gebauer J. and Vodouhè R.S. **2015**. Current knowledge and breeding perspectives for the miracle plant *Synsepalum dulcificum* (Schumach. & Thonn.) Daniell. *Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution* 62 (3):465-476.
- ▶ N'Danikou S., Achigan-Dako E. G., Tchokponhoué D. A., Agossou C. O. A., Houdegbe C. A., Vodouhe R. S., Ahanchede A. **2015**. Modelling socioeconomic determinants for cultivation and in-situ conservation of *Vitex doniana* Sweet (Black plum), a wild harvested economic plant in Benin. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 11(1):28. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-015-0017-3>.
- ▶ N'Danikou S., Achigan-Dako E.G., Tchokponhoué D.A., Assogba-Komlan F., Vodouhè R.S. and Ahanchédé A. **2015**. Improving seedling production for *Vitex doniana*. *Seed Science and Technology* 43(1): 10-19.
- ▶ Achigan-Dako E.G., N'Danikou S., Tchokponhoué, D.A., Assogba-Komlan F., Larwanou L., Vodouhe S.R. and Ahanchede, A. **2014**. Sustainable use and conservation of *Vitex doniana* Sweet: unlocking the propagation ability using stem cuttings. *Journal of Agriculture and Environment for International Development* 108(1): 43-62.

### Book Chapter

- ▶ N'Danikou S., Tchokponhoué D. A., Houdegbe C. A., Achigan-Dako E. G. **2014**. African Plant Biodiversity in Pest Management. In Gurib-Fakim A. (Ed.) *Novel Plant Bioresources: Applications in Food, Medicine and Cosmetics*. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, Chichester, UK. pp 263-283. ISBN 978-1-118-46061-0.

## REFEREES

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[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Enoch\\_Achigan-Dako](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Enoch_Achigan-Dako)

Dr. Julia Sibiya

Senior Lecturer – Plant Breeding

AGRA – IMCDA Project Manager

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