**National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET)**

María Eugenia Farias, PhD ­ 46 years old, Biologist, Adjunt researcher in Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), Argentina

EXPERTISE: High altitude extreme environments: Microbiology, UV radiation resistance in bacterial communities, Molecular Biology, Environmental Microbiogy, Molecular Biodiversity, Conservation. More than 60 papers in scientific journals. More than 790 citations, Hirsch index 16 (ISI database). 22 years research experience, 2.8 years in Research Institutions from Spain (2.5) and Germany (0.3), 2 book chapters.

STUDIES

1987­1991: Degree in Biology, National University of Tucuman, Argentina; 1992­1996: Ph.D. in Biological sciences, National University of Tucuman, Argentina

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2001­2014: Researcher in Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), Argentina; 1998­2001: Postdoctoral in Molecular Biology, CIB­CSIC, Spain; 1997­1998: Postdoctoral in Biotechnology, CERELA, Argentina; 1992­1998: Professor in Biology Science, Biochemistry, Chemical and Pharmacy Faculty, National University of Tucuman, Argentina

PUBLICATIONS – selection

(1) Farías ME, Contreras M, Rasuk MC, Kurth D, Flores MR, Poiré DG, Novoa F and Visscher PT. 2014. Characterization of bacterial diversity associated with microbial mats, gypsum evaporites and carbonate microbialites in thalassic wetlands: Tebenquiche and La Brava, Salar de Atacama, Chile. Extremophiles 18:311329

(2) Gorriti MF, Dias GM, Chimetto LA, Trindade­Silva AE, Silva BS, Mesquita MM, Gregoracci GB, Farias ME, Thompson CC and Thompson FL. 2014. Genomic and phenotypic attributes of novel salinivibrios from stromatolites, sediment and water from a high altitude lake. BMC Genomics 15:473

(3) Rasuk MC, Kurth D, Flores MR, Maldonado J, Contreras M, Novoa F, Poire D and Farías ME. 2014. Microbial characterization of a gypsum endoevaporitic ecosystem in Salar de Llamara Chile. Microb Ecol 68: 483­494

(4) Belfiore C. Ordonez O. and Farías ME. 2013. "Proteomic Approach of Adaptive Response to Arsenic Stress in Exiguobacterium sp. S17. An Extremophile Strain Isolate from High Altitude Andean Lake Stromatolite. Extremophile 17:421­31

(5) Farías ME, Rascovan N, Toneatti D, Albarracín V, Flores MR, Ordonez O, Poire D, Collavino MM, Aguilar OM, Vazquez M and Polerecky L. 2013. Discovery of Stromatolites Developing under Extreme Conditions in the Andeans Lakes. PLOS ONE 8: e53497

RESEARCH FUNDING (9 current grants) ­ selection

(1) PICT­2013­0730: Comprehensive Study of Carbon and Arsenic Biogeochemical Cycles in biofilms dominated by haloarchaea from Laguna Diamante (Argentina, 4570 m a.s.l.). Physiology, Proteomics, Metagenomics, and Metatranscriptomics. PI, ARS $419.848.

(2) Seremi Antofagasta 618775­8­Lp13: Analysis of Adaptation to Climate Change in Andean Wetlands. partner PI, US $1,008,376.

(3) PICT 1788: Microbial Stromatolites and Mats from Lagoon of Plateau. Prospecting, Biodiversity and Metagenomic Studies. (20112015) PI, ARS $1.200.000.

(4) BARCODE: Barcode for diversity. Microorganisms from Andean Lagoons. (2012­2013) PI, ARS $20.000.