

Orsolya Valkó

Curriculum Vitae

Scientific and Professional Career

2020–2024: Research Group leader, MTA-ÖK Lendület Seed Ecology Research Group

2013–2019: Research fellow, MTA-DE Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Research Group

2012–2019: Assistant professor, University of Debrecen, Department of Ecology

Current Research Topics / Expertise

Grassland biodiversity; Conservation and management of dry grasslands; Prescribed burning and fire ecology; Succession and vegetation dynamics; Plant species introduction, Grassland restoration, Seed banks and seed dispersal, Propagule and microsite limitation

Scientometrics

Total impact factor: 168.661

Hirsch-index on Google Scholar: 27

Citations on Google Scholar: 2085

Author of 97 scientific papers (60 papers in impacted journals, 12 other peer-reviewed papers in English, 25 peer-reviewed papers in Hungarian) and 16 book chapters (6 in English, 10 in Hungarian)

Grants and awards

2018 New National Excellence - Bolyai Plus post-doctoral grant

2018 Young Scientist Award of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

2017 Award for the Most Cited Review Paper in Basic and Applied Ecology

2017 "Woman Researcher of the Year" in the University of Debrecen

2017 Young Community Ecologist Award, 3rd prize

2017 Post-doctoral Grant of the New National Excellence Program

2017 Women in Science award in Agricultural Sciences from the HAS, UNESCO and Women in Science Association

2016 Bolyai János Scholarship of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

2016 MTA-TIT 1st Prize for the Best Paper in the journal Természet Világa

2016 National Youth Excellence Scholarship

2016 Scholarship of the Universitas Foundation

2016 Young Investigator Prize, 2nd prize for oral presentations, Eurasian Dry Grassland Conference

2016 Tutor Scholarship, Balassi Institute, Márton Áron Scholarship

2015 Young Investigator Prize of the Hungarian Ecological Society

2015 Campus Hungary Mobility Grant (Germany, Austria)

2014 L'Oreal – UNESCO for Women in Science Prize

2014 Campus Hungary Mobility Grant (Russia)

2014 HAS Young Investigator Award in Environmental Protection
2013 National Excellence Program, Magyary Zoltán Postdoctoral Scholarship
2013 Campus Hungary Mobility Grant (Poland, Germany)
2011 TÁMOP-4.2.2/B-10/1-2010-0024 Predoctoral Scholarship
2011 Scholarship of the Universitas Foundation
2010 Scholarship of the Mecenatúra Foundation
2009 Scholarship of the Universitas Foundation
2007 Scholarship of the Hungarian Ministry of Education
2006 Summer scholarship of the University of Debrecen, Faculty of Science and Technology
2006 Demonstrator scholarship of the University of Debrecen, Faculty of Science and Technology
2006 Pro Regione scholarship of the Hajdúsági Agráripari Rt.
2005 Pro Renovanda Cultura Hungariae Scholarship

Scientific research projects

2019-2024: MTA-ÖK Lendület Seed Ecology Research Group, Seed-based ecosystem engineering for supporting diverse and resilient ecosystems (research group leader)

2018: Three months ERC mobility grant (ERC-16-M-127070) to the ERC BIODESERT Group, Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Móstoles, Spain

2017-2019: Hungarian Research Grant; 'Seed bank and community assembly in grassland dynamics' (Grant Agreement Number: NKFI KH 126476, principal investigator)

2017-2021: Hungarian Research Grant; 'Plant diversity in fragmented rural landscapes – Linear elements and human-mediated dispersal' (Grant Agreement Number: NKFI FK 124404, principal investigator)

2018-2020: Hungarian Research Grant; 'The role of habitat and landscape factors in grassland community assembly' (Grant Agreement Number: NKFI KH 130338, senior researcher)

2014-2017: Hungarian Research Grant; 'The role of species pool, seed banks and plant traits in grassland dynamics' (Grant Agreement Number: PD111807, principal investigator)

2014-2015: Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt; 'Pro-SEED - Large-scale grassland restoration: the use of establishment windows and high diversity seeding by the knowledge transfer of regional seed propagation to Hungary' (participant)

2013-2014: Internal Research Grant of the University of Debrecen 'Propagule and microsite limitation in grassland dynamics by seed addition and biomass removal experiments' (principal investigator)

Teaching expertise

Secretary (2013-2019), lecturer and supervisor in the Juhász Nagy Pál Doctorate School

Lectures for gradual students: Conservation Biology BSc, Conservation Biology MSc, Nature Conservation, Ecological knowledge of terrestrial plants BSc, Methods in Ecology BSc, Grassland Ecology MSc, Ecology MSc, Basic Ecology BSc, Conservation Biology BSc (guest lecturer, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca)

Supervisor of 2 PhD students, 1 MSc and 3 BSc students.

Participation in scientific and social activities

- Organizer, Reproductive Strategies from Genes to Societies - Frontiers in Plant and Animal Reproduction Research international symposium
- Guest editor of the Featured Issue ‘Seed banks and seed dispersal’ in *Restoration Ecology* (2017)
- Guest editor-in-chief of the Special Feature of *Hacquetia*, edited by the Eurasian Dry Grassland Group (2016-)
- Member of the Editorial Board in the journals *Tuexenia*, *Applied Vegetation Science*, *Palaeoarctic Grasslands*, *Community Ecology*
- Member of HAS Ecological Scientific Committee
- Secretary, HAS Debrecen, Ecological Working Group
- Secretary, Juhász Nagy Pál Doctorate School (2013-2019)
- Chair and organizer of ‘The role of fire in ecosystem dynamics – From fire ecology to prescribed burning management’ and ‘Soil seed banks and seed dispersal - Promising sources for restoration’ Special Sessions in the SER 2016 conference (Freising, 22-26 August, 2016)
- Member of the Organizing Committee of the workshop ‘Conservation of grassland biodiversity in Hungary’ organized by HAS KÖTEB (Budapest, 14 April 2016)
- Organizer of the ‘Large-scale grassland restoration: high diversity seeding and knowledge transfer of regional seed propagation to Hungary’ workshop (Hortobágy, 9-10, April 2015) supported by the Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt
- Chair and organiser of the session ‘Local and landscape-scale effects in the recovery of grassland biodiversity’ in the European Conference on Ecological Restoration (Oulu, 3-8 August 2014)
- Chair and organiser of the session ‘Conservation and restoration of grassland biodiversity at multiple scales’ in the Conference of Grasslands - Ecology, Management and Restoration (Hildesheim, 28 September – 3 October 2013)
- Member of the Salvia Environmental and Nature Protection Association; organizing and giving lectures for students, coordinating grassland restoration and management projects on kurgans, coordinating volunteers.

Reviewer activity

Acta Botanica Hungarica, Acta Oecologica, Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment; Agricultural Systems, Applied Ecology and Environmental Research, Applied Vegetation Science, African Journal of Agricultural Research, Biodiversity & Conservation; Biological

Conservation, Community Ecology, Ecological Complexity, Ecological Engineering, Flora, Functional Ecology, Grassland Science, Hacquetia, Insect Conservation and Diversity, International Journal of Ecology, Journal for Nature Conservation, Journal of Applied Ecology, Journal of Arid Environments, Journal of Vegetation Science, Land, Land Degradation and Development, Nordic Journal of Botany, Notulae Botanicae Horti Agrobotanici Cluj-Napoca, Plant and Soil, Plant Ecology and Diversity, PLoS ONE, Restoration Ecology, Science of the Total Environment, Scientific Reports, Sustainability, The Scientific World Journal, Tuexenia

Sentinel of Science Award from Publons in 2016

Top Reviewers Award in Environmental Science and Ecology in 2018