

After a very successful first year of TICATalks, we came back in 2022 with a shorter but excellent program.

In March, we welcomed Dr. Marco Todesco from the University of British Columbia, Canada, who gave the talk titled "Hidden in plain sight: the role of ultraviolet colors in sunflower adaptation", about his most recent paper. We learned about the invisible ultraviolet patterns of sunflower heads and how the genetic mechanisms that lead to this diversity are regulated.

In May, Dr.Tim Collins joined us all the way from Australia to give the talk "Taxonomy, systematics, and polyploidy in Xerochrysum, Coronidium and Helichrysum leucopsideum (Asteraceae: Gnaphalieae)". In this beautifully illustrated talk, we got to know more about the amazing diversity of Gnaphalieae in Australia.

In June, we received Dr. Makeli Garibotti Lusa, who gave us a comprehensive overview of phytomelanin, in the talk "Melanin in Asteraceae shoot systems: what we know about this pigment, its occurrence and synthesis". We learned about the possible functions and the occurrence of this mysterious pigment in Asteraceae.

We are planning a few more talks for the rest of this year and we still have open spots. If you are interested in presenting, please contact us at ticaseminarseries@gmail.com.All our previous sessions are recorded and available online, at compositae.org.



Speakers at TICA TALKS. A. Marco Todesco (University of British Columbia, Canada). **B.** Tim Collins (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, New South Wales, Australia). **C.** Makeli Garibotti Lusa (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil).