



Please welcome

Dr. Leonor Boavida
Assistant Professor

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Leonor earned her Bachelor's degree in Biology and her Ph.D. in Cellular Biology from the Faculty of Sciences at the University of Lisbon, Portugal. She then came to the U.S. as a post-doctoral researcher at the Plant Gene Expression Center, University of California, Berkeley where she started pursuing her keen interest in double fertilization and gamete biology. She went back to Portugal as a senior post-doctoral fellow at Gulbenkian Institute of Science to focus her research projects on the function of Tetraspanins in plant gametes. At Purdue, her research is centered on understanding the molecular and cellular basis of plant fertilization. Specifically, Dr. Boavida's lab aims to combine cutting-edge experimental tools to identify signaling platforms relevant in the context of cell-cell recognition, adhesion, fusion and activation of development. Her ultimate goal is to uncover the secrets of plant fertilization as well as related evolutionary and taxonomic variations that can eventually be used for future applications in plant breeding programs.