

Ana M. Crespo de Las Casas (Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain 1948)
Professor of Botany at Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Member of the Royal Spanish Academy of Sciences from (since 2012).
Acharius Medal of the International Association of Lichenology (2012)
Research Associate of the Field Museum, Chicago, Ill (USA), since 2005.
Elected Member of the Council of the International Association of Plant Taxonomy (2011- 2016)
Medal of the Menéndez y Pelayo International University (1993)

Biology degree (1970) and PhD in Biology (1973) by the UCM. She has completed training visits and post-doctoral research in several European centres, namely in France (Station Internationale de Phytosociologie, Bailleul), Belgium (Departement d'Ecologie végétale, Louvain-la-Neuve, Université Catholique de Louvain), Germany (Naturkundemuseum Kassel), and Austria (Institut für Pflanzenwissenschaften Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz). She has developed collaborative research programs in the UK (International Mycological Institute, CABI, Egham, from July 1995 to November 1996) and in the USA (Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, several stays since 2005).

She is devoted to biodiversity research, mainly working with lichens (lichenized ascomycete fungi) in virtually all regions of the planet. Her scientific objectives are aimed at the identification and phylogenetic and evolutionary interpretation of species and their formal delimitation. She is also devoted to systematic and integrative taxonomy, combining all kinds of biological characters and properties for formal and predictive structure of organismic diversity. She has worked in combining molecular phylogenetic analyses (DNA markers) with the evolution of phenotypic traits (morphological and chemical markers), and the use of biogeographic and paleo-historical information. She has contributed remarkably to phylogenetic big data reservoirs (GenBank) producing a high number of sequences of phylogenetic markers mainly of fungi (c. 6200).

Additionally she has been involved on air pollution biomonitoring for spatial planning and environmental impact studies (for public administrations as the City of Madrid, or Espais de Natura Balear, but also for private national companies such as ENDESA, FENOSA, CESPA, or international ones, such as NEXO).

Almost since its founding, she has taken part of the CBOL consortium, that promotes and coordinates the initiative for molecular identification of species (plants and fungi), collaborating in the design of DNA Barcodes.

Recently she has been involved in research projects for the selection of natural products of pharmaceutical interest from lichenized fungi.

She has published several books and chapters and about 120 scientific papers, mostly in international journals. The main bibliometric indicators of her cv report are: a JCR h index =24 (2085 citations, average 21.72 at 14/10/2015), in Google h=31 (4014 citations at 14/10/2015).

<https://scholar.google.es/citations?user=tRMr110AAAAJ&hl=es&oi=ao>

She has advised 12 PhD students and has served on PhD committees both at Spanish universities (University of Barcelona, U. of León, U. of Valencia, U. Zaragoza, etc) and foreign ones (University of Essen, in Germany; and Universities of Geneva and Zurich,

in Switzerland) and has taught doctoral courses or equivalent at the UCM, "International Lectures on Molecular Research in Lichenology" organized by the Universities of Uppsala and Stockholm (Sweden).

She has taken part of juries appointed for the selection of professors and researchers at research centers and Spanish universities (CSIC, Universidad de Zaragoza, Universidad Pablo de Olavide) and foreign institutions (Birkbeck College, University of London, UK; University of Minnesota, USA; Field Museum of Chicago USA).

She has led a considerable number of research projects funded by public or private entities, both in Spain and abroad. She has given lectures and seminars in centres of excellence in Europe and North America. She has acted as referee for numerous prestigious international journals and is member of Editorial Boards of different scientific journals, and serves in the Council of the International Association for Plant Taxonomy.

She has experience in scientific and university policy having been Director General of the Office of the Secretary of State for Universities and Research (1986-1991), Director General of Universities of the Government of Spain (1991-1993) and General Coordinator of the National Evaluation Committee for Research Activity (CNEAI). Expert in scientific evaluation (of individual profiles, projects, programs and institutions) at national level (CAICYT, ANEP, ANECA, CNEAI, UCUA, AGAUR, UNIQUAL, ICREA, etc) and also international (NSF in the United States of America, ASF in Austria, CINECA in Italy, Natural History Museum of London, etc)

Other professional distinctions

She has been honored by her peers with the dedication of the following taxa:

Genera:

Cresporhaphis M.B. Aguirre, in Tibell, Bull. Br. Mus. nat. Hist., Bot. 21(2): 146 (1991)

Crespoa (D. Hawksw.) Lendemer & B.P. Hodk., N. Amer. Fung. 7(2): 3 (2013)

Cresponea Egea & Torrente, Mycotaxon 48: 302 (1993)

Species:

Cetraria crespoae (Barreno & Vázquez) Kärnefelt, Bryologist 96(3): 399 (1993)

Lichenodiplis crespoae Pérez-Ortega & V. Atienza, Lichenologist 41(3): 2 (2009)

Polycoccum crespoae Váczi & D. Hawksw., Lichenologist 33(6): 513 (2001)

Rinodina crespoae Giralt & H. Mayrhofer, Herzogia 10: 30 (1994)

Thelotrema crespoae Mangold, Elix & Lumbsch, Aust. Syst. Bot. 21(3): 223 (2008)

Xanthoparmelia crespoae Elix, Louwhoff & M.C. Molina, Mycotaxon 74(2): 499 (2000)

Poa anae Tovar, Publ. Mus. Hist. Nat. "Javier Prado", Ser. B, Bot. 33: 6 (1985)