

DANIEL ZOHARY – CURRICULUM VITAE

Born in Jerusalem, Israel, 1926. Elementary and secondary school education in Jerusalem.

2. Undergraduate studies in Biology at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem 1945-1947, 1949-1951. M.Sc. in Botany at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem 1951.
3. Graduate studies in Genetics at the University of California, Berkeley 1952-1956 (Supervisor: Prof. G.L. Stebbins). Ph.D. in Genetics 1956.
4. J. Belling Award in Genetics, University of California, 1959.
5. Lecturer in Genetics – 1956, Senior Lecturer – 1960, Associate Professor – 1963, Professor of Genetics – 1969, Professor Emeritus -1997. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
6. Chairman, Institute of Life Sciences, The Hebrew University, 1979-1983
7. Married to Lilly (born Monderer); has three children: Tamar, Ruth and Ehud.
8. Main fields of interest: Variation and evolution in plants. The origin of cultivated plants. Genetic resources in plants and their conservation.
9. Fellow: Linnean Society, London.

Current interest and research activity

The origin of cultivated plants: Work is centered on crops that had their origin in the 'Old World' (Southwest Asia, the Mediterranean basin, temperate Europe), particularly: wheats, barley, rye, oat, pea, lentil, chickpea, vetches, olive, grape-vine, date-palm, fig, apple, pear, almond, plum, cherries, melon, water-melon, lettuce, carrot and globe artichoke. The main aims are (i) More precise identification of the wild progenitors of these cultivated plants. (ii) Clarification of their major adaptations in the wild. (iii) Evaluation of the various genetic systems (pollination, polyploidy etc), and their impact on domestication. (iv) Assessments of the types of modifications these plants underwent in cultivation, and the various selection pressures involved in evolution under domestication. In addition, an attempt is made to combine the evidence from the living plants with archaeo-botanical information obtained from archaeological excavations in order to seek answers to the questions when, where and how these crops were taken into cultivation.

Wild genetic resources of crops: Work focuses on the study of the range of variation and the structuring of genetic variation in the wild progenitors of cultivated plants in the Mediterranean basin and the Near East. This is in order to gain better understanding of how to utilize these wild resources in current breeding work, and to prepare the ground for scientifically sound *in situ* conservation of wild progenitors.