About Professor Hon-Ming Lam

Choh-Ming Li Professor of Life Sciences, School of Life Sciences, CUHK

Director, State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology (CUHK)

Director, RGC-Area of Excellence Center for Genomic Studies on Plant-Environment Interaction for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

Biography

Professor Lam obtained his BSc and MPhil in Biology from CUHK in 1985 and 1987, respectively. After receiving his Ph.D. degree in molecular biology from Northwestern University in the USA, he worked as a post-doctoral fellow at New York University from 1992 to 1996. Professor Lam is currently Choh-Ming Li Professor of Life Sciences at CUHK. He is concurrently the Director of the State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology (The Chinese University of Hong Kong), and RGC-AoE Center for Genomic Studies on Plant-Environment Interaction for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security. Professor Lam's outstanding academic achievements have been recognised by several awards including the Higher Education Outstanding Scientific Research Award 2016 (Science and Technology; Second Class) from the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, Research Excellence Award of CUHK (1999-2000 and 2005-2006); Second-Class Award for Science and Technology (Zhejiang Province, China) (2007); Second-Class Award for Scientific and Technological Achievements (Beijing, China) (2001). Professor Lam's research focuses on climate-smart agriculture, plant and agrobiotechnology, and genomic studies on crop-environment interaction. He has published over 190 publications in premier scientific journals including Nature, Nature Genetics, Nature Communication, PNAS, Lancet, Plant Cell, Plant Physiology, Plant Journal, Journal of Biological Chemistry, New Phytologist, Plant Cell & Environmental, and Journal of Experiment Botany.

He has achieved high-impact scientific breakthroughs and findings, tools, and data developed to contribute significantly to soybean research and breeding. Professor Lam has successfully combined advanced technologies with traditional wisdom to breed new stress-tolerant soybeans. Three stress-tolerant soybeans developed by Professor Lam and his collaborators have been approved for field application in Northwest China. One forage soybean has also been developed in collaboration with breeders from Shanxi, and approved for application in Shanxi Province. Besides, to address global climate challenges through climate smart agriculture, Professor Lam is extending his research collaboration and initiated cultivation and breeding programs for soybean improvement in South Africa and Pakistan.

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