

## Dr. Velitchka Gotcheva

<b>Academic position</b>	Associate professor Department of Biotechnology; Center for Food Quality and Safety Education, University of Food Technologies, Bulgaria
<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Food Quality and Safety</b>
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sept. 1993 - Oct. 1998: Combined B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Biotechnology, University of Food Technologies, Bulgaria.</li> <li>• March 1999 – Oct. 2003: Ph.D. in Biotechnology, University of Food Technologies, Bulgaria.</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching Courses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemistry and technology of culture media for biotechnology</li> <li>• Technology of microbial protein products (labs)</li> <li>• Food biotechnology (labs)</li> <li>• Microbiological control of food products</li> <li>• Food authenticity</li> </ul>
<b>Scientific interests</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Molecular characterization of lactic acid bacteria, amylolytic lactic acid bacteria, probiotics</li> <li>• Food fermentations, cereal fermented foods</li> <li>• Functional foods</li> <li>• Food microbiology, food safety, rapid analytical methods</li> <li>• Quality and safety managements systems</li> <li>• Food authenticity</li> </ul>	
<b>Academic record</b>	
<p>Dr. Velitchka Gotcheva is an Associate Professor at UFT, teaching courses “Chemistry and technology of culture media for biotechnology”, “Microbiological control of food products” and “Food Authenticity”.</p> <p>She has participated in 26 research projects, 12 of which international. She has published 70 research articles and has 46 conference abstracts. Her scientific work was cited more than 460 times and the total impact factor (by 2015) of publications is 26,487.</p> <p>Dr. Gotcheva has 22 specializations, of which 14 international, in the field of food biotechnology, food fermentations, functional foods, probiotics, food authenticity, food quality and safety, molecular biology, e-learning, auditing of food quality and safety management systems.</p> <p><u>Awards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best work of a young microbiologist in Bulgaria for year 2001, an award by “Academic Professor Dr. Stefan Angelov” Foundation, Institute of Microbiology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2002, Sofia, Bulgaria;</li> <li>• First Prize for the team of a scientific project lead by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Angel Angelov by Fund "Scientific Research" of Ministry of Education and Science, X session (2000-2003) – December, 2005, Sofia, Bulgaria;</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Gotcheva was also a visiting lecturer at the Centre for Quality of Technical University Varna, Bulgaria, teaching vocational courses “Development and implementation of HACCP systems at</p>	

the food industry enterprises” and “Planning and performing internal audits of food quality and safety management systems”.

She is the national representative of Bulgaria at the ISEKI Food Association, a member of Bulgarian Association of Biotechnology, a member of the National Coordination Council of Nanotechnology, and a member of EFSA’s Bulgarian Focal Centre for Food Safety.

Dr. Gotcheva also works with the food and biotechnology industry as a consultant, she has worked as an auditor of ISO- and HACCP- based systems, and is currently a food label validation expert at Intertek.