



Curriculum Vitae

Personal information **Konstantina Bitchava**

Work experience

Associate Professor

Agricultural University of Athens [18/04/2022 – Current]

Address: 75 Iera odos street Dimakopoulos building, 15343 Athens (Greece)

Researcher

Veterinary Research Institute of the Hellenic Agricultural Organisation DEMETER [16/10/2016 – 17/04/2022]

City: Thessaloniki, **Country:** Greece

Head of the Laboratory of Fish, Shellfish and Crustacean Diseases

Freelancer

Fish farms [01/05/2014 – Current]

City: Ioannina, **Country:** Greece

Consultation and diagnosis of fish diseases

Freelancer

Vet in Progress Plus [01/09/2010 – 15/10/2016]

City: Ioannina, **Country:** Greece

Diagnosis of viral diseases, parasitological and microbiological factors for all animal species

Served as director of the branch in Ioannina and also served as substitute director of the head laboratories in Athens

Veterinarian

Greek Payment Authority of Common Agricultural Policy, Ministry of Rural Development and Food [21/03/2012 – 20/03/2013]

City: Ioannina, **Country:** Greece

Lecturer of Ichthyology and Ichthyopathology in undergraduate students

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly [01/09/2007 – 28/02/2011]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

Lecturer of Ichthyology and Ichthyopathology in postgraduate studies

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly [10/10/2008 – 30/09/2014]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

Education and training

City: Thessaloniki, **Country:** Greece

Website: <https://www.ihu.gr/ucips/postgraduate-programmes/bioeconomy>

Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations (FELASA) for Educational and Training courses in Laboratory Animal Sciences

University of Crete, Biology Department [01/06/2018 – 30/06/2018]

City: Iraklion, **Country:** Greece

Website: <https://www.biology.uoc.gr/en/announcements/7940>

Ph.D., Thesis Title: Study of the pathogenesis, pathology and susceptibility of different euryhaline fish species to Noda virus, raised under different salinity conditions.

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly [01/09/2004 – 10/12/2009]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

Website: <https://www.didaktorika.gr/eadd/handle/10442/30208>

Post-doctoral research

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly [01/04/2013 – 31/03/2015]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

M.Sc., Aquaculture - Aquatic Animal Health

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in cooperation with the T.E.I. of Epirus [2006-2009]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

Website: https://www.vet.uth.gr/en/?page_id=2460/

Intensive training in cell culture techniques

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie [01/10/2007 – 26/10/2007]

City: Padova, **Country:** Italy

Design, introduction and analysis of HACCP Systems

EUCAT [17/06/2006 – 19/06/2006]

City: Larisa, **Country:** Greece

Website: <http://www.eucat.gr/0010000132/haccp-iso-22000.html>

ECDL Core Certificate

ECDL Foundation [29/12/2005]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly [01/10/1998 – 10/07/2004]

City: Karditsa, **Country:** Greece

Website: <https://www.vet.uth.gr>

Additional information

Publications

Lampou, E., Psychari, E., Louka, K., Kotzamanidis, C., Malousi, A., Petropoulos, I., Kolygas, M. N., Doukas, D., & Bitchava, K. (2025). First Outbreak of Aeromoniasis, Caused by *Aeromonas veronii*, in Farmed European Seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) in the Ionian Sea, Greece. *Pathogens*, 14(6), 587. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pathogens14060587>

[2025]

Mittakos, I.; Nathanailides, C.I.; Kokokiris, L.E.; Barbouti, A.; Bitchava, K.; Gouva, E.; Kolygas, M.N.; Terzidis, M.A.; Kontominas, M.G. Antioxidant Capacity, Lipid Oxidation, and Quality Traits of Slow-and Fast-Growing Meagre (*Argyrosomus regius*) Fillets During Cold Storage. *Antioxidants* 2025, 14, 124

[2025]

Papadopoulos, D.K.; Giantsis, I.A.; Lattos, A.; Bitchava, K.; Michaelidis, B. Molecular Immune Responses of *Ruditapes decussatus* to *Vibrio* Infection at Different Temperatures: Expression of Key Genes and Resilience-Associated Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms. *Fishes* 2025, 10, 72.

[2025]

Apostolodi, E. D., Bitchava, K., Tsavea, E., Bouzalas, I., Gubili, C., Krey, G., & Boukouvala, E. (2024). Development of real-time qPCR assays for detecting and quantifying common bacterial pathogens in fish from Mediterranean aquacultures. *Mediterranean Marine Science*, 25(3), 732–739. <https://doi.org/10.12681/mms.38053>

[2024]

Cagri-Ozturk R., Ustaoglu D., Ture M., Bondavalli F., Colussi S., Pastorino P., Vela AI., Kotzamanidis C., Fernandez-Garayzabal JF., Bitchava K., Terzi Y., Volpatti D. and Altinok I. Epidemiological cutoff values and genetic antimicrobial resistance of *Lactococcus garvieae* and *L. petauri*. *Aquaculture* (Amsterdam, Netherlands). 593:741340. 2024. (A). ISSN: 0044-8486. DOI: 10.1016/j.aquaculture.2024.741340

[2024]

Tammas, I.; Bitchava, K.; Gelasakis, A.I. Advances in Vaccine Adjuvants for Teleost Fish: Implications

for Aquatic Welfare and the Potential of Nanoparticle-Based Formulations. *Vaccines* 2024, 12, 1347.

Tammas, I.; Bitchava, K.; Gelasakis, A.I. Transforming Aquaculture through Vaccination: A Review on Recent Developments and Milestones. *Vaccines* 2024, 12, 732.

[2024]

Antonopoulou, E.; Kolygas, M.; Panteli, N.; Gouva, E.; Kontogeorgiou, P.; Feidantsis, K.; Chatzopoulos, A.; Bitchava, K.; Zacharis, C.; Bonos, E.; Giannenas, I.; Skoufos, I.; Andreadis, S.S.; Skoulakis, G.; Athanassiou, C.G.; Nathanailides, C. Breeding Substrate Containing Distillation Residues of Mediterranean Medicinal Aromatic Plants Modulates the Effects of *Tenebrio molitor* as Fishmeal Substitute on Blood Signal Transduction and WBC Activation of Gilthead Seabream (*Sparus aurata*). *Animals* 2023, 13, 2537

[2023]

[Stoppani N, Colussi S, Pastorino P, Prearo M, Sciuto S, Altinok I, Öztürk RC, Ture M, Vela AI, Blanco MdM, et al. 16S-23S rRNA Internal Transcribed Spacer Region \(ITS\) Sequencing: A Potential Molecular Diagnostic Tool for Differentiating *Lactococcus garvieae* and *Lactococcus petauri*. *Microorganisms*. 2023; 11\(5\):1320.](#)

[2023]

[Sarker Mohammed Ibrahim Khalil, Elena Saccà, Marco Galeotti, Simona Sciuto, Nadia Stoppani, Pier Luigi Acutis, Rafet Cagri Öztürk, Konstantina Bitchava, Maria Del Mar Blanco, Lucio Fariano, Marino Prearo, Silvia Colussi, Donatella Volpatti. In field study on immune-genes expression during a lactococcosis outbreak in rainbow trout \(*Oncorhynchus mykiss*\). *Aquaculture*, Volume 574, 2023, 739633, ISSN 0044-8486.](#)

[2023]

[Lattos A., Giantsis I.A., Tsavea E., Kolygas M., Athanasopoulou F. and Bitchava* K. \(2022\). Virulence genes and in vitro antibiotic profile of *Photobacterium damsealae* strains, isolated from fish reared in Greek aquaculture facilities. *Animals*, 12\(22\), 3133](#)

[2022]

[Lattos, A., Bitchava, K., Giantsis, I.A., Theodorou, J.A., Batargias, C., Michaelidis, B. \(2021\). The Implication of *Vibrio* Bacteria in the Winter Mortalities of the Critically Endangered *Pinna nobilis*. *Microorganisms*, 9\(5\), 922;](#)

[2021]

Kotzamanidis, C., Malousi, A., Bitchava, K., Vafeas, G., Chatzidimitriou, D., Skoura, L., ... & Zdragas, A. (2020). First Report of Isolation and Genome Sequence of *L. petauri* Strain from a Rainbow Trout Lactococcosis Outbreak. *Current Microbiology*, 1-8

[2020]

Lampou, E., Dovas, C., Margaroni, M., Chasalevris, T., Pappas, I. S., Dotsika, E., ... & Bitchava*, K. (2020). Investigation of routes of entry and dispersal pattern of RGNNV in tissues of European sea bass, *Dicentrarchus labrax*. *Journal of Fish Diseases*, 43(11), 1363-1371

[2020]

[Bitchava K, Chasalevris T, Lampou E, Fotini Athanassopoulou F, Economou V, Dovas C.I. \(2019\) Occurrence and molecular characterization of betanodaviruses in fish and invertebrates of the Greek territorial waters. *Journal of Fish Diseases*](#)

[2019]

Lenas, D., Papadimitriou, E., Bitchava, C. and Nathanailides, C. (2011) Fatty acid's content and potential health benefits of consuming gilthead sea bream (*Sparus aurata*) and sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*). *Acta Alimentaria*, 40(1): 45-51.

[2011]

G. Rigos, K. Bitchava and I. Negas (2010) Antibacterial drugs in products originating from aquaculture: assessing the risks to public welfare. *Mediterranean Marine Science*, 2010: 149-201. [2010]

Papadopoulos Th., Abraham A, Sergelidis D., Kirkoudis I., Bitchava. (2010) Prevalence of *Listeria* spp. in freshwater fish (*Oncorhynchus mykiss* and *Carassius gibelio*) and the environment of fish markets in Northern Greece. *J Hellenic Vet Med Soc* 61(1): 15-22.

[2010]

C. Perdikaris, C. Nathanailides, E. Gouva, U.U. Gabriel, K. Bitchava, F. Athanasopoulou, A. Paschou, I. Paschos (2009) Size-related effectiveness of Clove oil as anaesthetic for rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss* Walbaum, 1792) and goldfish (*Carassius auratus* Linnaeus, 1758). Revision 1. *Acta Vet Brno*: 2009 077-441-1RV.

[2009]

Vagianou St., Bitchava K., Athanasopoulou F. (2009) Study of the biological cycle of the isopod *Ceratothoa oestroides*, Risso, 1836 in sea bream (*Sparus aurata*) and sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) *J Hellenic Vet Med Soc* 60(1): 614.

[2009]

Gatzia K., Tzironi E., Bithava K., Athanasopoulou F. (2009) Detection and morphological identification of myxosporidia and evaluation of the effect of freezing and Giemsa staining on myxosporidia spore size. *J Hellenic Vet Med Soc* 60(1): 562.

[2009]

Athanassopoulou F., Pappas I., Bitchava K. (2009) An overview of the treatments for parasitic disease in Mediterranean aquaculture. *CIHEAM Journal Options Méditerranéennes*. 2009: 65-83 [2009]

Kosti E., Perdikaris C., Athanasopoulou F., Chantzaropoulos A., Vavatsikos M., Ergolavou A., Bitchava C., Paschos I. (2008) Use of prussian carp, *Carassius gibelio*, pituitaries in the artificial propagation of

female common carp, *Cyprinus carpio*. *Acta Ichthyologica et Piscatoria*, **38(2)**, 121-125.

[2008]

Papadopoulos P., Bitchava K., Tzironi E., Athanassopoulou F. (2008) Fish vaccination. J Hellenic Vet Med Soc 59(4): 308-319.

[2008]

Angelidis P., Yiagnisis M., Vatsos I., Bitchava K., Teliouis K., Solomakos N., Athanassopoulou F. (2008) Aquaculture Bacterial Bank in Greece; Methodology and first results. Scientific Annals of the Danube Delta Institute, 4, 5-18.

[2008]

Bitchava K., F. Athanassopoulou, E. Xylouri – Fragkiadaki, M. Papanastasopoulou, O. Sabatakou (2007) Case report: First incidence of Noda virus infection in sea bream (*Sparus auratus* L.), showing nervous clinical signs. International Journal of Aquaculture-Bamigheh, 59(1), 36-41.

[2007]

Tsantilas H., Athanassopoulou F., Galatos A.D., Bitchava K. (2006) Welfare of fish. J Hellenic Vet Med Soc 57(2): 140-148

[2006]

"Viral encephalopathy and retinopathy (VER)" (K. Bitchava) Aspects of Mediterranean Marine Aquaculture, 2013: 461-474.

[2013]

Chapter in book

"Lymphocystis" (K. Bitchava) Aspects of Mediterranean Marine Aquaculture, 2013: 461-474.

[2013]

Chapter in book

"Main pathological conditions in Mediterranean cultured fish" (F. Athanassopoulou, K. Bitchava, P. Koumoundouros) Recent Advances in Aquaculture Research, 2010: 149-201.

[2010]

Chapter in book

Projects

- WP2 - Science and Innovation Agenda and positioning in the ERA". EU-Conexus Research For Society H2020 2022-2024, Member of the Research Team
- «Nostrea - Intelligent Multispecies Shellfish Spawning Station», Operation Program of Central Macedonia Region 2014-2020 "Investment Plans" (ESPA 2014-2020). 2021-2023. Scientific coordinator of the partner
- "Improving Sustainability and PERFORMANCE of aquaculture farming system: breeding for lactococcus resistance in rainbow TROUT". SUPERTROUT PRIMA-Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area 2020-2023. PI of the Greek partner
- "Effectiveness of plant and marine substances for the prevention and treatment of Microcotyle spp, Myxosporea and myxobacteriosis in farmed bream (*Sparus aurata* L.)." AltMedSea-bream Call: "Aquaculture" - "Industrial Materials" - "Open Innovation in Culture" 2020-2023, Scientific coordinator of the partner
- BIOFLOC System for the P.japonicus, P.vannamei, & P.indicus Shrimp Farming-SBIOFLOC "Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation (EPANEK)", (ESPA 2014-2020) 2020-2023, Subcontractor
- Correlation of biotic and abiotic factors for the development of a disease prognosis model in fish farming units (PROGNOSIS), Fisheries and Maritime Operational Programme (Partnership Agreement (PA) 2014-2020). 2019-2023, Scientific coordinator of the project
- European Network of Vaccine Adjuvants. ENOVA, Cost Action, EU Framework, H2020 2017-2021, Member of the Committee
- ANASA: Definition and identification of pioneering products PDO or PGI of Amvrakikos Gulf, as part of the evaluation and sustainable management of fish stock of the gulf. Public Investments Program, Greece 2015-2016, Researcher
- Analysis of mechanisms of immunopathology in natural and experimental infections of fish with Noda virus: importance of the infection for public health. Thalis, Ministry of Education and Religion 2013-2015, Post-Doctoral Researcher
- Investigation and prevention of fish disease problems. Information-Training of fish farmers, Private company BIOMAR 2018-2019, Scientific
- Surveillance and protection of the health of trout farming. ELGO-DIMITRA, Private 2017-2018, Scientific Coordinator
- Bank for Pathogenic Microbes from Greek Aquaculture. Program 4.6 "Pioneering programs". Ministry of agricultural development and food. 2007-2008, Working as a Researcher
- Study of residues in euryhaline fish, Private 2008-2008, Working as a Researcher

Memberships

- Diplomate of the EBVS® European College of Aquatic Animal Health (dipECAAH)
- Scholarship of the Ministry of Rural Development to attend a master's degree in English with the title: M.Sc., Bioeconomy: Biotechnology and Law, The International Hellenic University, Greece
- Post Graduate Studies Scholarship from The State Scholarship Foundation of Greece (IKY) in the sector of Ichthyopathology after the successful participation in examination held by the foundation.
- Second place award in the annual competition of "WALTHAM" for graduate students of Veterinary Schools in Greece.
- Member of the Organizing committee of the 15o Panhellenic Veterinary Congress, Athens, Greece, 2022
- Section Editor, Journal of the Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society

Other Relevant Information

Teaching Activities

- 2022-current Diseases of Aquatic animals, School of Animal Biosciences, Agricultural University of Athens
- 2022 In Post Graduate Studies, Lecturer in "Molecular Techniques in disease diagnosis", post-Graduate program entitled: Aquaculture - Aquatic Animal Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly, Greece

- 2021 In Post Graduate Studies, Lecturer in "Infectious Diseases III and non-infectious diseases", post-Graduate program entitled: Aquaculture - Aquatic Animal Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2017 May 2017 Assistant in the laboratory practice of students in "Pathology of Cultured Aquatic Organisms", School of Veterinary Medicine of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
- 2013-2014 Teaching Assistant in "Ichthyopathology and Ichthyology", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2013-2014 University scholarship in teaching and laboratory training of graduate student in "Fish Pathology", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2010-2011 Part time Lecturer in "Ichthyopathology and Health Management of Aquatic Organisms", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2010 Full time Lecturer in "Ichthyology-Aquaculture-Pathology of farm animals", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2010 In Post Graduate Studies, Lecturer in "Basic disciplines of Ichthyopathology and Diagnostics" and Lecturer in "Infectious Diseases III", Post-Graduate program entitled: Aquaculture - Aquatic Animal Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2009-2010 Full time Lecturer in "Ichthyopathology-Laboratory support", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2009 Part time Lecturer in "Ichthyology-Aquaculture-Laboratory support", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2008-2009 Part time Lecturer in "Ichthyopathology-Laboratory support", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2008 Part time Lecturer in "Ichthyopathology", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 2007- 2008 Part time Lecturer in "Ichthyopathology-Laboratory support", Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, Greece