



Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research

The Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research

Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology

Seminar

Michal Gruntman

School of Plant Sciences

and Food Security,

Tel Aviv University



Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 12:00

Seminar Room, Old Administration Building

Participants are invited to meet the seminar speaker at the MDDE meeting room immediately after the seminar (~ 13:00). Please bring your lunch; snacks will be provided.

Should I Stay or Should I Grow: Developmental Responses and Decision Making in Plants

Plants are long known to be able to perceive and respond to their biotic and abiotic environment, but increasing evidence suggest that they can also integrate more complex information from multiple cues and exhibit optimal decision-making. Here, I will present two examples for such integrated plant responses. The first example demonstrates the ability of plants to optimally choose between three responses to competition in a way that matches their ability to outgrow their neighbors. The second example reveals that herbivory can induce enhanced foraging and clonal sharing, demonstrating that plants can integrate multifaceted information on both resource distribution and the presence of enemies.