

Dr. Michael Schmid

Helmholtz Zentrum München, German Research Center for Environmental Health

Dr. Michael Schmid studied Chemistry and thereafter Biology at the Technical University of Munich (<http://www.tum.de>) with the main focus on Microbiology, Microbial Ecology and Molecular Biology. Minor fields of his study were Biochemistry, Mycology and Virology. He got the degree of Dipl.-Biol. Univ in 1997. His diploma thesis was accomplished in the research Group Microbial Ecology (former head Prof. Dr. Michael Wagner, now Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Vienna, Department of Microbial Ecology, Austria) and concentrated on the "In situ detection of a virulence factor mRNA and 16S-rRNA in *Listeria monocytogenes*". The PhD thesis on "Development of in situ detection systems for the food born pathogens *Listeria*, *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* as well as phylogenetic analysis of the genus *Listeria* and fine differentiation of *Listeria monocytogenes*" was completed in 2000. PhD thesis supervisor was Prof. Dr. Karl-Heinz Schleifer (Professor Emeritus, former Ordinarius of the Department of Microbiology, Technical University of Munich, <http://www.mikro.biologie.tu-muenchen.de>, now President of the International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS), <http://www.iums.org/index.html>).

From October 2000 to August 2006 Dr. Michael Schmid was employed as researcher and laboratory leader of the group Plant Microbe Interactions in the Division Rhizosphere Biology with Prof. Dr. Anton Hartmann as Head. The Division was affiliated to the Institute of Soil Ecology, GSF-National Research Center for Environment and Health.

In August 2006 the independent Department Microbe Plant Interaction (<http://www.helmholtz-muenchen.de/en/amp>) was founded and Dr. Michael Schmid became leader of the group Root Microbiology. In the course of reorganization of the GSF Research Center for Environment and Health, at the beginning of 2008 the Research Center was renamed into Helmholtz Zentrum München, German Research Center for Environmental Health with the research focus on "Environmental Health".