

Zbigniew Lazar - Poland

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Prof. Zbigniew Lazar is a scientist in the field of natural sciences, specializing in biotechnology. He began his academic journey at the Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Poland, where he studied Food Technology and Human Nutrition. He earned his PhD in biological sciences in 2011 and since 2022 he works as full professor at that university. He leads the research team "Biotech@Life - Biotechnology for Life and Industry" and chairs the Scientific Council of the Discipline of Biotechnology.

Prof. Lazar's research focuses on the comprehensive exploration of yeast metabolism and regulation, particularly in species from the *Yarrowia* clade and *Vishniacozyma* genus. His work in metabolic engineering and synthetic biology involves developing yeast transformants capable of efficiently biosynthesizing valuable metabolites such as organic acids, polyhydroxy alcohols, dyes, fragrances, and heterologous proteins. Additionally, he is dedicated to promoting sustainable biotechnology through the valorization of industrial waste as substrates for biosynthesis. His innovative approach extends to utilizing microorganisms for mineral extraction and processing, as well as employing bioremediation techniques to remove environmental pollutants. This multifaceted research contributes significantly to advancements in contemporary biotechnology.