



## **Innovations towards Organic and Agro-Ecological Food and Farming Systems**

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### **Message from the Guest Editor**

Agricultural intensification since the Second World War enabled a tremendous yield increase in all major crops and livestock products. This, however, was at the expense of a dependence on external inputs from fossil resources, an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, eutrophication of water bodies, as well as losses in biodiversity and soil degradation and many other problems. A promising option to combat these adverse effects is eco-functional intensification through organic farming. This approach is based on using internal natural resources and processes to secure agricultural productivity, while minimizing negative environmental impacts. As organic farming has been advanced mainly by pioneer farmers from bottom-up movements, not only technological but also social innovations are important drivers of success.

This Special Issue will focus on innovations and strategies to improve organic farming systems and other agro-ecological approaches. We welcome novel research, reviews and management solutions, case-studies from the field, and policy positions covering innovative ideas that can help to move towards sustainable food and farming systems.





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