



Editorial

Preface of IV Conference Ia ValSe-Food CYTED and VII Symposium Chia-Link

Norma Sammán ¹, Mabel Cristina Tomás ², Loreto Muñoz ³ and Claudia Monika Haros ^{4,*}

¹ Centro Interdisciplinario de Investigaciones en Tecnologías y Desarrollo Social para el NOA (CIITED), Facultad de Ingeniería, Universidad Nacional de Jujuy, Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), San Salvador de Jujuy 4600, Argentina

² Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo en Criotecnología de Alimentos (CIDCA), CCT La Plata (CONICET), CICPBA, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas (FCE), Universidad Nacional de La Plata (UNLP), La Plata 1900, Argentina

³ Food Science Lab, School of Engineering, Universidad Central de Chile, Santiago 8330601, Chile

⁴ Institute of Agrochemistry and Food Technology (IATA), Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), 46980 Valencia, Spain

* Correspondence: cmharos@iata.csic.es; Tel.: +34-963900022

We want to walk the full path, with a firm step at each stage, following Machado's verses: "Walker there is no path, you make the path as you go".

This book brings together the complete collection of presentations of the IV International Ia ValSe-Food Conference and VII Symposium of the Chia-Link Network, held in the cities of La Plata and Jujuy, Argentina on 14–18 November 2022.

The topics are approached from diverse and articulated perspectives, such as agro-economic and nutritional properties, the content of biofunctional compounds, technological characteristics, and the development of new products from ancestral Latin American crops, as a response to the motto of promoting research and innovation in food with valuable Ibero-American seeds.

The presentations are the result of the collaboration and exchange of experiences between the members of the Ia ValSe Group and the Chia-Link Network, which consists of 50 groups including institutions that are a part of the scientific-technological system, researchers, companies, and the industrial/consumer associations from 12 countries.

As is well known, the conservation of biodiversity is essential for food security and nutrition. Nowadays, the world largely relies on a reduced set of staple crops. Consumption of these native foods, along with scientific knowledge, will help to develop local economies and prevent any type of malnutrition and various noncommunicable diseases.

Currently, the complex system of relationships demands interdisciplinary research processes, drawing on a combination of knowledge from different fields without taking into account hierarchies or exclusions.

This book concludes another stage in the process of using our current generation of knowledge to incorporate underexploited native crops with a high content of nutrients into the population's diet. Additionally, this publication strengthened the exchange of information between the participants of the Ia ValSe Group and the Chia-Link Network.

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