Special Issue

Preharvest and Postharvest Factors Influencing Biological Active Compounds in Horticultural Commodities

Message from the Guest Editor

Fruits and flowers are one of the most important sources of biologically active compounds in the human diet. During storage it is impossible to improve the quality of fruit or other horticultural products. However, many studies indicate that this rule does not apply to biologically active compounds. During storage, substances dissolved in cell juice are concentrated due to water loss. This may mean that, after removing the products from the cold store, they have a greater oxidation reduction potential than immediately after harvesting. The increase in the content of some compounds may be due to natural ripening processes. There are many compounds that are secondary metabolites. Poor storage conditions can also cause the content of these desirable compounds to decrease; however, the greatest influences on the accumulation of beneficial substances were factors of production. Weather conditions during vegetation, plant protection treatments, and other agrotechnical treatments will affect many chemical processes occurring in the plant. It is also not without significance that the harvest date, harvesting technique, and handling of the harvested crop are correctly determined.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 November 2023)

Agriculture

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.6
CiteScore 6.3

mdpi.com/si/174347

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Agriculture (ISSN 2077-0472) is an international, scholarly and scientific open access journal publishing peer-reviewed research papers, review articles, communications and short notes that reflect the breadth and interdisciplinarity of agriculture.

Editor-in-Chief

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