Special Issue

Life Cycle Assessment and Environmental Impact Analysis of Agricultural Production Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

Agriculture is a leading contributor to many environmental issues, including 35–40% of terrestrial land occupation, 70–90% of freshwater consumption, 95% of nitrogen pollution, and 30% of greenhouse gas emissions. In order to assess the diverse environmental impacts associated with agricultural products, a systems-level, multi-criteria assessment method, such as life cycle assessment (LCA), is required. LCA is used to assess a variety of environmental impacts (including, but not limited to, greenhouse gas emissions, eutrophying emissions, acidifying emissions, land use, water use, and energy use) throughout the life cycle (or supply chain) of a product or service. LCA and other associated life cycle thinking techniques are used to assess the relative sustainability of different product alternatives, management techniques, or production pathways. The use of such methods is imperative for making informed sustainability decisions and avoiding burden-shifting between different types of impacts or across supply chain stages. We therefore invite contributions to this Special Issue that focus on LCA or other related impact assessment methods applied to agricultural products.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Agriculture (ISSN 2077-0472) is an international, cross-disciplinary and scholarly journal on the science and technology of crop and animal production, and management of the natural resource base for agricultural production. We invite submissions from authors according to the aims and scope of the journal described in more detail on this page. *Agriculture* is published in an open access format – articles are published on the journal's website immediately after acceptance, giving the scientific community and the public unlimited and free access to the content.

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