Special Issue

Agricultural Waste—Status and Future Prospects

Message from the Guest Editors

While crop residues such as straw and husks largely remain on the field, residues from animal production such as slurry, solid manure, and slaughterhouse waste are used in the biogas process chain or numerous other utilization processes, and, in some cases, are also returned to agricultural production in the fields. Many of these nutrient cycles appear to be ready for the future. However, further utilization pathways are on the rise, including (i) the thermochemical conversion of plant residues to provide bioenergy or biochar, and (ii) the separation of residues from animal production into solid and liquid phases so that parts of the nutrient surpluses (e.g., phosphorus) can be countered with nutrient exports. This Special Issue aims to shed light on the status and future prospects of agricultural waste by compiling the latest findings on the reduction, optimized use, and utilization of agricultural waste, as well as by identifying opportunities for a more holistic sustainability assessment of agricultural waste utilization webs. Value chains and value webs of bioenergy, as well as biobased products and product components, will be considered.

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