Special Issue

Biocontrol of Plant Pests and Pathogens

Message from the Guest Editors

Disease and pest management in many crops may be really challenging. As harvest time approaches, farmers have limited alternatives to chemical control in order to avoid chemical residues in the produce. At this point, especially, fruits with high sugar content, such as grapes, become more susceptible to post-harvest pests and diseases, e.g., fungi causing rot, adding an extra challenge in the puzzle of crop protection. Another problem that farmers need to overcome is the resistance that pests and pathogens develop in pesticides, along with the small number of chemical products that can be used legally in many countries. The attractive alternative strategy, in order to avoid chemical residues in fruits and vegetables, is biological control. In addition, when it comes to cankers and vascular diseases, things are getting even more intriguing as chemical control strategies are not always available or efficient and, often, the only available means is prevention. Therefore, this Special Issue welcomes articles that address sound tools helping to reduce the use of synthetic chemical pesticides and promote sustainable agriculture in woody crops.

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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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