

Special Issue

Benefits and Challenges of Cover Crops in Agricultural Systems

Message from the Guest Editor

Cover crops—sometimes referred to as catch crops—are known to provide additional ecosystem services in arable cropping systems. However, their agronomic benefits, like their effectiveness as fertilisers and yield effects, are strongly site-dependent and can also be disadvantageous. In terms of climate effects, the choice of system boundaries under spatial and temporal conditions can affect the overall balance. Therefore, a holistic evaluation of cover crops' effects in cropping systems must assess all potential impacts, including long-term and off-site effects. To achieve the aim of maximising cover crops' environmental benefits, we must explicitly address their challenges and risks together with potential solutions.

This Special Issue invites authors to contribute work that discusses the agronomic aspects of cover crops, as well their environmental effects and economic impacts. We welcome experimental studies conducted on a wide range of spatial scales (e.g., laboratory/incubation, field, landscape) and reviews/meta-analyses (regional and global) on cover crops in agricultural systems.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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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