Special Issue

Ecological Remediation in Agricultural Soil Pollution

Message from the Guest Editors

Due to the rapid growth in the world's population, the industrialization of society, and the excessive use of pesticides in agriculture, the accumulation of harmful and contaminating substances in the soil, the main resource for food production, is rapidly increasing. A direct consequence of this trend could be a significant reduction in the number of areas usable for producing healthy food that does not contain contaminants of any kind. The accumulation of toxic pollutants (heavy metals, radionuclides, and organic pollutants) burdens the production capacity of the ecosystem. The soil often adopts, binds, and accumulates harmful substances, and if the intake of these pollutants exceeds a certain limit, the soil begins to pose a health risk for the production of healthy food. The remediation of contaminated soil using conventional methods such as excavation and the removal of contaminated soil is often too expensive and applicable only in smaller areas. Also, conventional methods often make the treated soil infertile and unsuitable for agricultural production due to damage to the microflora.

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