

Special Issue

Harnessing the Potential of Invertebrate Decomposers in Circular Agriculture

Message from the Guest Editor

Decomposers provide an essential ecosystem function by returning nutrients from dead organic matter back into living food chains. Decomposition is therefore a key process in circular agriculture. A diverse range of plant, animal, and microbial organisms are involved in decomposition; however, in recent years, considerable attention has been drawn to the role of invertebrates and their associated microbial endosymbionts in converting industrial and agricultural wastes to useful primary products, such as arthropod proteins and oils. Furthermore, secondary products from arthropod-based decomposition can be used as fertilizers and composts. This Special Issue focuses on the use of decomposer invertebrates, such as soldier flies, mealworms, or aquatic snails in circular economics. Papers addressing novel decomposer food chains as applied to circular agriculture or that address the end-use of decomposer products are particularly welcome. Papers from any region, any industrial or agricultural system, or that address any type of invertebrate decomposers will be considered.

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