Special Issue

The Role of Edible Mushrooms in Sustainable Food Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

Edible mushrooms play a vital role in sustainable food systems, providing environmental, nutritional, and economic benefits. They efficiently convert organic waste into valuable food, supporting circular economies using agricultural by-products like straw, sawdust, and coffee grounds. This process reduces waste while supplying protein, fiber, vitamins, and minerals. Mushroom cultivation requires minimal land, water, and energy, helping decrease greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impact. Nutritionally, mushrooms are rich in protein, beta-glucans, antioxidants, and bioactive compounds that support immune function and reduce inflammation. They are low in calories and fat, making them excellent functional foods for healthier diets. Economically, mushroom cultivation allows small-scale farmers to diversify income and enhance food security. With minimal investment and the ability to grow in small spaces, mushrooms are accessible to both rural and urban farming communities. Overall, edible mushrooms advance sustainable food systems by promoting waste recycling, improving nutrition, and supporting local economies while reducing the environmental footprint of food production.

Guest Editors

Dr. Fortunato Cirlincione

Department of Soil, Plants and Food Science (Di.S.S.P.A.), University of Bari Aldo Moro, Via Amendola 165/A, 70126 Bari, Italy

Dr. Valeria Ferraro

Institute of Sciences of Food Production (ISPA), National Research Council of Italy (CNR), Via Amendola 122/O, 70126 Bari, Italy

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 December 2025

Agriculture

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.6
CiteScore 6.3

mdpi.com/si/224160

Agriculture
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
agriculture@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/agriculture

Agriculture

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.6
CiteScore 6.3

mdpi.com/journal/agriculture

MDPI

About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Les Copeland
Sydney Institute of Agriculture, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubAg, AGRIS, RePEc, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Agronomy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Plant Science)