

Special Issue

Plant Breeding through Conventional and Biotechnological Methods

Message from the Guest Editors

Plant breeding science has moved from phenotypic selection to genetics, molecular breeding and molecular markers, and lately, from omics technologies to genome-wide association studies. Thousands of species and varieties have been sequenced and phenotyped, and new markers have been developed. Whole genomes and varieties of many plant species have been sequenced and mapped, offering unique knowledge. The vast scientific progress has gone even further from genetic engineering to editing technologies, which has introduced the scientific community to new frontiers and new challenges. Furthermore, agriculture and humanity face challenges not seen before. These challenges put plant production and food security under pressure to meet the needs lying ahead. Moreover, we have now learned that there is no magic solution but instead a unique solution where interdisciplinary collaboration is needed in order to progress in new innovative solutions that might be needed urgently in the view of the fast-coming challenges. This SI concentrates on the recent developments in the field of plant breeding using either conventional or biotechnological methods or their combinations.

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