Special Issue

Breeding and Genetics of Horticultural Crops

Message from the Guest Editors

World agriculture needs genetic improvement to face the novel challenges represented by the global warming and the population growth with subsequent increase in the demand of food supplies. In light of this, the development of novel cultivars showing enhanced agricultural traits (e.g., fruit quality, yield, resistance to biotic and abiotic stress) represents a fundamental step toward the increase in quality and quantity of horticultural products. Furthermore, improved crop varieties, suited to a range of agroecosystems, resilient to climate change, and characterized by relevant agronomical traits, are key to a sustainable crop production. To this end, a deep understanding of the genetic basis regulating phenotypes of interest and the application of conventional and biotechnological breeding tools combined with marker-assisted selection represent a way to meet the increasing consumer demands in terms of production, safety, and quality and to protect the environment.

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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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