

Special Issue

Mushroom Cultivation: Growing for Quality

Message from the Guest Editor

Mushrooms have been cultivated for their gourmet, nutritive and medicinal properties, yielding an estimated 12,000,000 tonnes in 2019. While the white button mushroom (*Agaricus*) comprises about 30% of production, a number of other genera such as *Pleurotus*, *Flammulina*, *Lentinula*, *Ganoderma*, *Grifola*, and *Volvariella* constitute the remainder. Mushrooms are cultivated on substrates composed primarily of agricultural waste products which, when spent, can be utilised for soil enhancement and environmental remediation. In the fresh market, the primary indicators of mushroom freshness and quality are colour and texture. Quality is largely determined by careful crop husbandry, but because they lack a waxy cuticle or protective skin like other fruits and vegetables, mushrooms are susceptible to discolouration caused by water imbalance, bruising, and insect and microbial attack. Research articles will cover topics related to the composition, structure, and physicochemical properties of mushroom substrates and all aspects of crop husbandry including water management and the impact and control of pests and diseases with the aim of maximising mushroom quality at harvest.

Guest Editor

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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.

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