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Analysis of Complex Traits and Molecular Selection in Perennial Crops

Guest Editors:

Dr. Xiaoyu Weng
Department of Integrative Biology, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712, USA

Prof. Dr. Jiangyi Yang
State Key Laboratory for Conservation and Utilization of Subtropical Agro-bioresources, College of Life Sciences and Technology, Guangxi University, Nanning 530004, China

Prof. Dr. Jihua Ding
College of Horticulture and Forestry Sciences, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan 430070, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (31 August 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The global agricultural systems are largely reliant on the yearly planting of annual crops, such as wheat (Triticum), maize (Zea mays), rice (Oryza sativa), and soybean (Glycine max). The use of these systems has been a boon in providing food security to the global population, yet it has also resulted in ecological consequences such as climate change, soil erosion, wildlife habitat destruction, and other pollutants. To ensure sustainability, one of the optimal approaches is to mimic the functioning of the natural ecosystem. The most remarkable feature of natural ecosystems is the prevalence of perennial species, thus, shifting from annual to perennial crops could be a revolutionary solution to reduce the need for external inputs such as energy, fertilizers, and pesticides.

The objective of this collection is to bring together the most recent advancements in the genetic and molecular mechanisms of complex traits in perennial crops, encompassing both woody and herbaceous crops. Additionally, we are interested in molecular selection and breeding practices for these perennial crops.

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Leslie A. Weston
Gulbali Centre for Agriculture, Water and Environment Research, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2678, Australia

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Agronomy Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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