

## Special Issue

# Trade-Offs in Crop Production: Yield and Quality, Resource Use Efficiency, and Environmental Sustainability

### Message from the Guest Editors

Achieving sustainable crop production requires balancing trade-offs among yield, quality, resource use efficiency, and environmental sustainability. High crop yields are essential for meeting global food demand, but they often come at the expense of reduced crop quality and the increased consumption of resources, such as water, fertilizers, and energy. Conversely, optimizing resource use efficiency and improving environmental outcomes may sometimes limit yield potential. For example, reducing nitrogen fertilizer application can mitigate environmental issues like water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions but may also compromise crop yield and quality. Innovative agricultural practices, including precision farming, advanced breeding techniques, and sustainable nutrient management, etc., offer promising solutions to balance these trade-offs. For a paper to be included in this Special Issue, the research must involve field experiments, preferably with inter-annual repetitions. For tank or pot experiments, yield-related factors must have at least two years of repetition.

---

### Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Junfei Gu

Dr. Kuanyu Zhu

Dr. Weiyang Zhang

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 June 2026



## Agronomy

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 3.4  
CiteScore 6.7

---



[mdpi.com/si/229658](https://mdpi.com/si/229658)

*Agronomy*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[agronomy@mdpi.com](mailto:agronomy@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
agronomy](https://mdpi.com/journal/agronomy)





# Agronomy

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 3.4  
CiteScore 6.7



[mdpi.com/journal/  
agronomy](https://mdpi.com/journal/agronomy)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Agronomy* draws together researchers from diverse areas of agricultural research with a common aim of enhancing agricultural productivity globally. The journal provides unlimited free access to all those interested in advancing agricultural science from both the research and general community. Papers are released immediately after acceptance through the internet.

*Agronomy* is supported by our authors and their institutes through low article processing charges (APC) for accepted papers. We hope you will support the journal by becoming one of our authors.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Leslie A. Weston

Gulbali Centre for Agriculture, Water and Environment Research,  
Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2678, 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, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Agronomy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Agronomy and Crop Science)