Special Issue

New Phytoremediation in Trace Elements Contaminated Soils

Message from the Guest Editors

Plant-based ("phyto")-remediation comprises the so-called soft (or gentle) remediation practices, which take advantage of soil biological processes to promote natural soil remediation. Phytoremediation consists of the use of the plants and their associated microorganisms, supported by soil amendments, to remove (phytoextraction), immobilise (phytostabilisation), volatilise (phytovolatilisation) or degrade the soil contaminants (phytodegradation).

This Special Issue covers novel aspects of soil phytoremediation, including: new strategies for emerging inorganic pollutants and for mixed/combined contamination; criteria for remediated soils based on pollutant bioavailability, risk assessment, soil health and biodiversity; selection of plants tolerant of trace elements for specific soil and climatic conditions; new soil amendments to retain inorganic contaminants, thus reducing their bioavailability, toxicity and leaching risk. Both short-term experiments under controlled conditions and, especially, long-term validation experiments are welcome.

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