

Special Issue

Barley Genetic Resources: Advancing Conservation and Applications for Breeding – Series II

Message from the Guest Editor

Gene banks harbor a large “green treasure” of plant genetic resources (PGRs). The growing world population requires support through a constant increase in agricultural production. A changing climate is forcing plant breeders to develop plant cultivars with effective and durable resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses. These breeding activities can be supported by the broader exploitation of PGR. However, activities related to conservation of genetic resources in gene banks are characterized by high cost and long-term return.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to harmonize efforts concerning both the conservation of genetic variability both in situ and ex situ for the future as well as the efficient utilization of available resources in plant breeding programs. Pre-breeding activities are also needed to effectively link genetic resources and breeding programs. Contributions in the form of novel research, review, and opinion articles covering all aspects of the conservation of barley genetic resources and their application in breeding are welcome.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2024)



Agronomy

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 6.7



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