Special Issue

Ecology and Non-chemical Management of Weeds

Message from the Guest Editor

The natural process for a spare soil is to be colonized by plants, but when their growth interferes with the human objectives, they become weeds, which must be maintained under threshold levels to avoid yield losses. The control of weeds is probably the greatest deal for agriculture, and are mostly controlled by herbicides. But two different aspects are promoting the management of weeds with non-chemical strategies. On one hand, the rise of ecological concern that demand for organically grown products. On the other hand, the appearance of resistant weed species to herbicides of many modes of action, that make the application of several herbicides completely ineffective. Knowledge on the ecology of weeds can help find the weak points for each species, where an action can be performed in order to improve its management without chemical tools, while maintaining their populations under threshold values. These strategies can be valid for their application in either organic or conventional farming systems. In the present Special Issue research manuscripts that study the ecological characteristics of weeds and that seek innovative ways to manage them are invited for their publication.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2022)

Agronomy

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 6.7

mdpi.com/si/91345

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