

Special Issue

Genetic Diversity and Invasion Risk of Cultivated Plants

Message from the Guest Editors

The research on sustainable resources and the increasing interest in natural products are promoting the introduction of more and more new species to agriculture. This Special Issue focuses on the genetic and functional traits involved in evolutionary processes leading to invasiveness in cultivated plants. Genetic diversity remains poorly considered in the decisions regarding the introduction of new plant accessions in agrosystems. Awareness of the genetic diversity prior to the import of crops could limit this invasion risk, as well as genetic pollution of their native relatives through gene flow. This issue collects case studies, reviews, and points of view documenting the invasion risk due to newly introduced or genetically modified cultivated species in order to identify, through several case examples, which ecological, biological, and genetic traits have to be carefully considered and monitored. The following topics are welcome: (1) initial stage or monitoring of invasion; (2) biological and ecological traits; (3) genetic diversity; (4) dispersal; (5) mating system and hybridization; (6) ecological niche; (7) decision support tools limiting invasion risk.

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