Special Issue

Biostimulants for Sustainable Crop Productivity and Protection: From Concept to Application

Message from the Guest Editors

Biostimulants, classified as microbial (such as plantgrowth-promoting microorganisms, microalgae, and cvanobacteria), non-microbial (including seaweeds and plant extracts, humic and fulvic acids, chitosan, and protein hydrolysates), and waste-derived (made from agro-industrial wastes), offer promising solutions to enhance plant resilience, nutrient uptake, and soil health. Microbial sources produce bioactive compounds such as phytohormones, peptides, amino acids, fatty acids, polysaccharides, and phenolics that enhance nutrient uptake, activate metabolic pathways, and help plants withstand abjotic stress. This Special Issue will focus on recent advances in biostimulant development, modes of action, and applications for sustainable crop protection and yield improvement. We welcome contributions focusing on novel biostimulant formulations, their synergistic effects with agronomic practices, soil-plant-microbe interactions, and case studies from field trials. Interdisciplinary and multi-scale studies that connect biostimulant effects with ecological and physiological outcomes are particularly encouraged.

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Editor-in-Chief

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