

Special Issue

Sustainable Production and Breeding Research for Tropical Plantation Crops

Message from the Guest Editor

The rapid expansion of tropical plantation crops (e.g., oil palm, rubber, sugarcane, timber, cocoa, coffee, etc.) has led to the emergence of agricultural commodities of strategic global importance, which have profoundly transformed landscapes and livelihoods in the tropical world. Plantation management now needs to meet the dual challenge of conserving biodiversity and engaging in sustainable agricultural development through the adoption of agroecological practices. Research in social sciences has also questioned the inclusion of major stakeholders, such as smallholding farmers. The certification of sustainable practices and the modes of governance that are capable—at the local and national levels—of guaranteeing a credible sustainability of agricultural practices are also key research topics. With genomic resources becoming increasingly available for most of the plantation crops, the exploration of the genetic basis of complex traits, such as yield, tolerance to diseases, or resilience to climate change, is now under way. Consequently, the availability, treatment, and sharing of large amounts of data are currently reshaping breeding strategies.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2020)



Agronomy

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 6.7



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