Special Issue

Rhizobia and Stress

Message from the Guest Editor

Rhizobia are gram-negative soil bacteria that have the special ability to engage in symbiotic interactions with leguminous plants (mainly) and form special structures on the roots and sometimes stems of these hosts. Nitrogen fixation, both natural and synthetic, is essential for all forms of life, as nitrogen is required to biosynthesize the basic building blocks of plants, animals, and other life forms. In many traditional and organic farming practices, fields are rotated through various types of crops, usually consisting of mainly or entirely clover, alfalfa, or buckwheat (the nonlegume family Polygonaceae). Legumes also include major food and feed crop species. They represent the third largest group of angiosperms and are the second largest food- and feed-crop group grown globally. They are cultivated on 12%–15% of available arable land and are responsible for more than 25% of the world's primary crop production, with 247 million tons of grain legumes being produced annually. Thus, rhizobial interaction is of major agronomical interest. Stress (resistance) in rhizobia in inocula will be covered in this Special Issue of Agronomy.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Frans Johannes de Bruijn

Director of Research DR1, INRAE/CNRS Laboratory for Plant Microbe Interactions (LIPM),Chemin de Borde Rouge, CS52627, Auzeville,CEDEX, Castanet Tolosan 31320, France

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Agronomy
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
agronomy@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Leslie A. Weston
Gulbali Centre for Agriculture, Water and Environment Research, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2678, Australia

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