

Special Issue

Sustainable Cropping Systems and Biomasses for Energy and Biorefinery Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

In the competing uses of plant biomasses, the food vs. fuel conflict appears to be the most prominent mainly. Marginal agricultural or contaminated lands or derelict soils are being discussed as potential alternatives for biomass production. Moreover, such alternative production areas often promise to add ecological value through restoring or enhancing biodiversity while comprising the risk of affecting biodiversity. Areas with marginal soil characteristics are available worldwide. To unlock the potential of these areas, and simultaneously sustain the productivity of agricultural soils, a holistic approach comprised of (i) adapted biomass plants, (ii) alternative and sustainable cropping systems and (iii) efficient fertilization strategies needs to be investigated and employed. Securing or promoting biodiversity may become crucial in terms of (indirect) land-use changes (iLUC/LUC) associated with biomass production, and this requires careful consideration when opening and employing new areas for biomass production. Besides, smart bioenergy, material use and biorefinery value chains should be implemented to decarbonize the economy. We cordially invite all kinds of articles.

Guest Editors

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