

Special Issue

Application of Biochar in Soil Amendment

Message from the Guest Editors

Biochar can be an important tool to increase food security and cropland diversity in areas with severely depleted soils, scarce organic resources, and inadequate water and chemical fertilizer supplies. Biochar also improves water quality and quantity by increasing soil retention of nutrients and agrochemicals for plant and crop utilization. More nutrients stay in the soil instead of leaching into groundwater and causing pollution. The carbon in biochar resists degradation and can hold carbon in soils for hundreds to thousands of years. In addition to creating a soil enhancer, sustainable biochar practices can produce oil and gas byproducts that can be used as fuel, providing clean, renewable energy." Biochar and bioenergy co-production can help combat global climate change by displacing fossil fuel use and by sequestering carbon in stable soil carbon pools. It may also reduce emissions of nitrous oxide. We can use this simple, yet powerful, technology to reduce carbon emissions.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Arif

Department of Agronomy, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar 25000, Pakistan

Dr. Kashif Akhtar

State Key Laboratory for Conservation and Utilization of Subtropical Agro-Bio-Resources, College of Life Science and Technology, Guangxi University, Nanning 530004, China

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal Applied Sciences has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giulio Nicola Cerullo
Dipartimento di Fisica, Politecnico di Milano, Piazza L. da Vinci 32,
20133 Milano, Italy

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