Special Issue

Anaerobic Digestion for Waste/Wastewater Treatment

Message from the Guest Editors

Anaerobic digestion (AD) is a mature, environmental friendly technology that is widely used for waste/wastewater treatment. During AD the organic matter present in various types of wastes/wastewaters (sewage sludge, agro-industrial wastes, OFMSW, energy crops) is converted into biogas (mainly methane) and an effluent (digestate) with favourable fertiliser and soil amendment properties. Recent improvements in various scientific fields (reactor engineering, modeling and optimization practices, molecular tools) gave a better insight of the process. In addition, research interest focused on the enhancement of the process efficiency through the development and study of new materials as additives in AD, biogas upgrading for maximizing methane production and exploitation of the digestate as a nutrient source. Recently, co-digestion of feedstocks with different origin, and application of innovative pre-treatment technologies to enhance anaerobic biodegradability of the wastes/wastewaters used in AD, contributed in promoting the process in real scale applications.

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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.

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