

Special Issue

Novel Growing Media and Stand-Alone Substrates for Sustainable Agriculture

Message from the Guest Editors

Unfavorable conditions for sustainable agriculture, such as decreasing arable land, increasing urbanization, water shortages, and climate change, exert pressure on farmers and may represent a deplored disadvantage for human and environmental health safety. One of the most promising approaches to undertake this challenge is called “sustainable intensification”, which attempts to combine increased production without damaging its supporting ecosystem by following innovative procedures. The general idea of this Special Issue is to afford an international base for revealing the underlying physico-chemical, agronomic, physiological, and ecological mechanisms of the new organic and inorganic materials used as growing media constituents or stand-alone substrates for horticulture and floriculture productions, with the aim of improving their productive, qualitative, and human–environmental health and safety traits. Thus, submissions of research articles, reviews, short notes, and opinion articles reporting novel scientific findings on the aforesaid topics are welcome.

- growing media
- organic, biodynamic and sustainable agricultural procedures

Guest Editors

Dr. Claudio De Pasquale

Department of Agricultural, Food, and Forest Sciences (SAAF),
University of Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, 13, 90128 Palermo, Italy

Dr. Leo Sabatino

Department of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Sciences (SAAF),
University of Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, Ed. 5, 90128 Palermo, Italy

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2020)



Applied Sciences

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 5.5



mdpi.com/si/29917

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

mdpi.com/journal/appls





Applied Sciences

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 5.5



[mdpi.com/journal/
applsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/applsci)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, Inspec, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Engineering, Multidisciplinary) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Engineering)