

Special Issue

Microalgal Biotechnology

Message from the Guest Editors

There is a growing interest in the opportunities that microalgae and cyanobacteria offer in industrial biotechnology as light-driven platforms for the production of valuable bio-products. These range from bulk products such as biofuels and animal feeds to high-value compounds for the cosmetics, nutraceutical and pharmaceutical sectors. The extreme diversity amongst these phototrophic microorganisms provides a rich vein of novel compounds and biochemical pathways, although such bioprospecting is still in its infancy. Furthermore, the development of genetic engineering technologies for various platform species opens the door to domesticated or 'designer' strains with enhanced productivity of natural compounds, or low-cost synthesis of recombinant products including therapeutic proteins or bioactive metabolites. This special issue invites original research papers and reviews that cover all aspects of the field – from strain characterization and genetic enhancement, to cultivation technologies and downstream processing.

Guest Editors

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Message from the Editorial Board

A major strength of biological science is the diversity of approaches that biological scientists apply to their research problems. *Biology* reflects this diversity and brings together studies employing the varied experimental and theoretical approaches that are fueling biological discovery. *Biology*, the journal, is a fully peer-reviewed publication with a rapid and economical route to open access publication and is listed on PubMed. All articles are peer-reviewed and the editorial focus is on determining that the work is scientifically sound rather than trying to predict its future impact.

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