

Special Issue

Future Innovation and Challenges in Bioactive Compounds from Plant Foods: Towards Sustainable Health

Message from the Guest Editors

Bioactive compounds from plant-based foods are leading a global shift toward more sustainable and health-oriented nutrition as these naturally derived molecules—such as antioxidants, anti-inflammatory agents, and functional phytochemicals—are increasingly recognized for their ability to support health and reduce the risk of chronic diseases. However, unlocking their full potential still presents challenges. These include improving eco-friendly extraction methods; exploring new sources such as agro-industrial byproducts, microalgae, and lab-grown foods; and enhancing bioavailability and functional performance. There is also a growing need to clarify their mechanisms of action through advanced biological models. This Special Issue offers a platform for research that bridges current needs and future directions in this evolving field. We welcome original articles and reviews exploring the extraction, characterization, and functional evaluation of plant-based bioactive compounds, with a focus on sustainability, circular approaches, and emerging applications. Contributions on innovative food production in controlled environments or extreme contexts are also encouraged.

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Foods (ISSN 2304-8158) is an open access and peer reviewed scientific journal that publishes original articles, critical reviews, case reports, and short communications on food science. Articles are released monthly online, with unlimited free access. Currently, *Foods* has been indexed by the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE - Web of Science), PubMed, and Scopus. Our aim is to encourage scientists, researchers, and other food professionals to publish their experimental and theoretical results as much detail as possible. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global food science community.

Editor-in-Chief

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