

Special Issue

Research Trends in Plant-Based Foods

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent years, the food sector has seen a significant increase in plant-based products because of growing attention to health, environmental sustainability, and animal welfare. Plant-based foods as alternatives to meat, dairy, and other animal-derived products are rapidly gaining market share. Recent trends include improvements in taste and texture and the use of alternative protein sources. Beyond the development of meat and dairy substitutes, a significant emerging trend is the incorporation of natural extracts derived from plants and agricultural by-products, such as peels, leaves, and seeds, supporting a circular economy approach. Rich in bioactive compounds such as polyphenols, flavonoids, carotenoids, and dietary fibers, they are used to enhance the health profile, antioxidant activity, and sensory attributes of plant-based formulations. Innovative extraction techniques enable the efficient and sustainable recovery of these high-value compounds. Together, these developments point to a promising future for plant-based nutrition, with strong implications for health, food innovation, and global environmental sustainability.

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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.

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