

Special Issue

Precision Genome Engineering in Plants

Message from the Guest Editors

Recent advances in genome editing technologies, particularly CRISPR-Cas systems, have revolutionized plant biotechnology by enabling precise modifications in plant genomes. This Special Issue explores the latest breakthroughs in precision genome engineering for crop improvement, functional genomics, and synthetic biology. Topics include novel CRISPR-based tools (e.g., base editing, prime editing, and gene targeting), computational approaches for gRNA design, and applications in enhancing yield, stress tolerance, and nutritional quality. We also highlight challenges such as off-target effects, delivery methods, and regulatory considerations. Contributions cover both model and non-model plant species, emphasizing translational research for sustainable agriculture. By integrating cutting-edge genome editing with traditional breeding, this issue aims to accelerate the development of next-generation crops to address global food security challenges.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Weibin Song

State Key Laboratory of Maize Bio-Breeding, National Maize Improvement Center, Department of Plant Genetics and Breeding, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China

Prof. Dr. Zhiyong Zhang

School of Life Science, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (10 March 2026)

G C A T
T A C G
G C A T

Genes

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.8
CiteScore 5.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/254110

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

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



G C A T
T A C G
G C A T

Genes

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.8
CiteScore 5.5
Indexed in PubMed



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



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Selvarangan Ponnazhagan
Experimental Cancer Therapeutics, The University of Alabama at
Birmingham, 1825 University Blvd., SHEL 814, Birmingham, AL 35294-
2182, USA

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), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Embase, PubAg, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Genetics and Heredity) / CiteScore - Q2 (Genetics (clinical))