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# Soilless Cultivation in Horticulture: Cutting-Edge Solutions to Increase Productivity and Plant Protection Levels

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# **Message from the Guest Editors**

Soilless cultivation in horticulture is reaching high technological levels by means of decision support systems (DSSs), enabling digital control of a lot of cultural operations, including fertigation, water supply, disease and pest management, greenhouse climate conditioning, and physiological effect lighting. The development and consolidation of new managing protocols, based on biological and non-chemical tools, in association with the latest advanced digital horticultural technologies, has been widely investigated. Furthermore, the increasing number of issues related to growing media sustainability, as well as availability and usability, are moving towards new challenges compared to previous studies.

This Special Issue welcomes papers focusing on cuttingedge technologies, new methods, and both biological and non-chemical next-generation tools, including growing media, aimed at improving plant productivity and protection levels against pests and diseases, reducing dependence on synthetic fertilizers and phytosanitary products by favoring the optimal use of resources, and in particular enhancing energy, water, and nutrient use efficiency.









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# Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Horticultural plants and their products provide sustenance, health, and beauty. A confluence of factors is putting increasing pressure on horticultural production to evolve, and innovative research is addressing these challenges. Horticulturae provides a venue to communicate research results in a rapid manner with open access, allowing everyone the opportunity to stay abreast of leading research addressing horticulture. I invite you to consider publishing the results of your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed journal.

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