Neglected and Underutilized Plant Species in Horticultural and Ornamental Systems: Perspectives for Biodiversity, Nutraceuticals and Agricultural Sustainability

Guest Editors:

Dr. Rosario Paolo Mauro
Department of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Catania, Via Valdisavoia, 5 - 95123 Catania, Italy
rosario.mauro@unict.it

Dr. Carlo Nicoletto
Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural Resources, Animals and Environment (DAFNAE), University of Padova, 35020 Legnaro, Italy
carlo.nicoletto@unipd.it

Dr. Leo Sabatino
Department of Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences, University of Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, Ed. 5 90128 Palermo, Italy
leo.sabatino@unipa.it

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce this Special Issue of Horticulturae, dedicated to the multifaceted topic of neglected and underutilized plant species (NUS) in horticultural and ornamental systems. Over the last few decades, this topic has received growing attention from the scientific community, as a possible option to face the agricultural challenges of producing more foods and services, within a framework of greater sustainability. Indeed, global urbanization processes, climate change, and the reduction of natural resources are expected to emphasize the vulnerability of mainstream agriculture, satisfying the needs of an ever-increasing world population by leveraging a restricted number of cash crops. In this context, NUS could promote agro-biodiversity, improve the resilience of the agro-ecosystems toward environmental stressors, foster the utilization of nutraceuticals and the diversification of dietary patterns, and provide important local services (environmental, economical, socio-cultural) as ornamentals or in landscapes.

Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (31 December 2021)
**Editor-in-Chief**

**Prof. Dr. Luigi De Bellis**  
Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences and Technologies, Università del Salento, Centro Ecotekne, via Provinciale Lecce Monteroni, 73100 Lecce, Italy

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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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**Contact Us**

**Horticulturae**  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
www.mdpi.com  
horticulturae@mdpi.com  
@Horticul_MDPI