



Recent Advances in Nutrition and Fertilization of Horticultural Crops

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 June 2022)

Message from the Guest Editor

Horticultural crop fertilization has moved toward a precision management system that aims at joining crop quality, environmental and economical sustainability. This goal can be achieved through 1) the knowledge of the nutrient requirement of the crop, 2) the determination of soil nutrient availability and kinetics of plant uptake and 3) the use of local, recycled, organic, agri-food wastes. Keeping in mind that the application of a circular economy path is an indispensable step on the way of pursuing a reduction of CO₂ emission and the crop carbon footprint, the knowledge of optimal thresholds for soil nutrient availability for each horticultural crop is crucial to define a correct application rate not only for nitrogen, but also for all macro- and micronutrients. Soil structure, microbial communities, biodiversity (plant intercropping) and water management are among the major factors that affect nutrient availability and should be optimized to maximize fertilizer effectiveness.

Keywords:

- organic amendment
- nutrient availability
- nutrient use efficiency
- nutrient uptake kinetic
- plant growth-promoting microorganisms
- root rhizosphere





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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