

Special Issue

Volatile Composition and Sensory Qualities of Emerging Horticultural Plants

Message from the Guest Editors

Plants produce many secondary metabolites. Some of them are volatile compounds, responsible for sensory and taste; therefore, they have wide applications in everyday life, in food, cosmetic and household products, aromatherapy, and well-being. However, plants synthesize these components to defend themselves against herbivores, pests, diseases, high temperatures, and other stressful agents, but over time humans has learned to use them for their own benefit. For years, man has selected plants and genotypes that are most suitable for the production of volatile components, i.e., essential oils, and also selected regions that are best for the production of certain plants. With the development of science and technology, the method of isolating volatile compounds also developed. With the development of awareness about environmental protection, the byproducts produced during the distillation of essential oils—hydrolates—are gaining more and more importance as products with added value. Additionally, encapsulation, polymerization, and other forms of the sustainable use of volatile components are rapidly developing and gaining importance.

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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