

Special Issue

Advancing Sustainable Horticulture: Harnessing Biocontrol Agents for Insect Pest Management and Plant Growth Promotion

Message from the Guest Editors

Our demand for sustainable horticultural production is increasing. Due to environmental constraints and reduced availability of synthetic pesticides, the need for the development of effective and ecologically sound pest management strategies emerges. Biological control agents (BCAs) are important components of integrated pest management (IPM). They provide targeted insect pest suppression and maintain the agroecosystem stability.

Several BCAs are known for their direct entomopathogenic activity, such as entomopathogenic microorganisms and beneficial arthropods. Simultaneously, they exhibit multifunctional roles, including endophytic behavior and plant growth-promoting effects.

This Special Issue aims to present original research and reviews addressing the diversity, mechanisms of action, formulation, field application, and IPM integration of biocontrol agents in horticultural systems, with emphasis on their dual role in insect pest management and plant growth promotion.

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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