

Special Issue

Cultivation and Breeding of Ornamental Plants

Message from the Guest Editors

The breeding of ornamental plants has a specific and focused aim since it involves a numerous and heterogeneous group of genera, species and cultivars. At present, the varieties of the main cultivated flowering species are derived from crossings between disparate species, even from different continents. As a result of this activity of inter- and intraspecific crossings, carried out randomly and for several centuries, modern varieties have a very complex genome, with a strong genetic impact and with different level of polyploidy, as well as with a high level of heterozygosity. Breeding programs for ornamental species are often complicated since it is even difficult to cross varieties of the same species, in particular due to different chromosomal sets of parentals that often cause problems of chromosomal pairing during meiosis phases. This Special Issue welcomes studies on the breeding of ornamental species, via traditional breeding and technological approaches (NBT), aimed at the selection of new genetic materials with good aesthetic characteristics, but resistant to stress linked to climate change, for use in low-input production systems.

Guest Editors

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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

Prof. Dr. Luigi De Bellis
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