

Special Issue

Biological Control of Pre- and Postharvest Fungal Diseases

Message from the Guest Editors

At the beginning of the 1960s, treatments based on chemical fungicides, as the main method of reducing post-harvest fruit losses, obtained satisfactory results. However, the fungicide option for managing post-harvest decay is increasingly limited; in addition, the use of fungicides on fruit after harvest is regulated by different food protection agencies. Alternative biocontrol methods are also necessary, starting from the field, so as to create a connection with the post-harvest phase alternative treatments. Biological control in sensu strictu involves microorganisms known as biocontrol agents (BCAs), which are mainly yeasts, bacteria, and fungi; however, sometimes their activity is inconsistent. Therefore, to overcome this issue, integrated strategies including essential oils (EO), physical treatments, GRAS, chitosan, and, less frequently, fungicides in low doses, could be explored in order to achieve maximum effectiveness. The proposed Special Issue aims to present advanced studies, methods, tools, and innovations in the field of biological control of fungal diseases in pre- and post-harvest phases.

Guest Editors

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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

Prof. Dr. Luigi De Bellis

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