

# Special Issue

## Biocontrol Potential of Essential Oils in Organic Horticulture Systems

### Message from the Guest Editors

The growing awareness of sustainable and safe food production and increasingly restrictive policies for pesticide use have engendered great demand for more environmentally friendly biocontrol methods. Essential oils (EOs) as a minimum-risk product for IPM strategies. Several studies have emphasized EOs' potential for plant protection, for control insects, mites, nematodes, mollusks, invasive plants and weeds, and phytopathogenic bacteria and fungi affecting crops and harvested cultures. EOs' wide-ranging activity, biodegradability, and non-persistence in the environment are major advantages encouraging their use in horticultural systems. This Special Issue welcomes the submission of papers substantiating the promise of exploiting EOs and their constituents as emerging biocontrol products for organic food production. The Special Issue will disseminate recent developments and promote discussion emphasizing various aspects of EOs under investigation, namely: essential oils' effectiveness in the field, factors challenging their use, novel solutions to increase their stability and release, and EOs' potential as possible elicitors of plant defense.

---

### Guest Editors

Dr. Rose Marie De Sousa

Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Porto, 4169-007 Porto, Portugal

Prof. Dr. Conceição Santos

Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Porto, Rua Campo Alegre, 4169-007 Porto, Portugal

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2023)



# Horticulturae

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 3.0  
CiteScore 6.1



[mdpi.com/si/117776](https://mdpi.com/si/117776)

*Horticulturae*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[horticulturae@mdpi.com](mailto:horticulturae@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
horticulturae](https://mdpi.com/journal/horticulturae)





# Horticulturae

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 3.0  
CiteScore 6.1



[mdpi.com/journal/  
horticulturae](https://mdpi.com/journal/horticulturae)



## About the Journal

### 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

Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences and  
Technologies (DiSTeBA), Salento University, 73100 Lecce, Italy

---

### Author Benefits

#### Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubAg, AGRIS, FSTA, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Horticulture) / CiteScore - Q1 (Horticulture)