

Special Issue

Morchella: Innovative Mushrooms from Forests to Farms, Then to Our Tables

Message from the Guest Editors

Morels are mushroom-forming macrofungi in the *Morchella* genus that are highly prized for their desirable aroma, delicious taste, and tender texture. Having a long history of food and medicinal applications in both Eastern and Western cultures, morels are consumed globally, contributing to a remarkable industry. Morels were once only wild-foraged from forests, shrubs, and grasslands, but several species (e.g., *Morchella importuna*, *M. sextelata*, *M. eximia*, and *M. rufobrunnea*) have been domesticated, with it becoming feasible to cultivate them artificially in substrate beds of soil or compost in recent decades. The scale of commercialized morel cultivation is expanding very rapidly not only in China but also in other countries. While the innovative morel industry is thriving all over the world, several problems are always hampering its sustainable development, including a lack of cultivars with improved performances; a the technologies for stable and high yields still being underdeveloped; a lack of food processing technologies to elongate the shelf life being prominent; the elucidation of the chemical constitution with healthy effects; and diversified and value-added morel products.

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

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