# **Special Issue**

# From the Field to the Table: Unearthing Wild Fruit Species for Enhanced Prospecting and Utilization

## Message from the Guest Editors

The lack of knowledge on several wild fruit species regarding their complete botanical information, ethnobotany, food and nutrition value, and, consequently, their potential use, as well as the changes in their ecosystem, maintain their underutilized status. However, these species are valuable since they usually contain nutritionally rich compounds that make them functional foods and a source of natural pigments. They also play an important role, considering increased food and nutritional insecurity, for their ability to recover from rigorous weather, to resist biotic and abiotic stress, and finally for being important gene donors for crop breeding. Based on the foregoing, it is considered that non-traditional and underutilized fruits are important in mitigating the problems of world food. The objective of this Special Issue is to collect information on the geographic distribution, systematics and phylogeny, phenology, floral biology, morphological and anatomical characteristics, chemical composition, biological activity, ethnobotany, genetic resources and breeding, and domestication and postharvest of wild fruit species.

### **Guest Editors**

Dr. Miriam Elisabet Arena

Dr. Silvia Radice

Dr. Edgardo Giordani

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2025)



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Horticulturae
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
horticulturae@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ horticulturae





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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

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

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