

# Special Issue

## Microorganisms in Plastics and Bioplastics: Biodegradation, Biosynthesis, and Environmental Impacts

### Message from the Guest Editor

Plastic pollution has become one of the most critical global environmental challenges, driven by the extensive use of petroleum-derived plastics that, despite being recyclable, remain largely non-biodegradable and environmentally persistent. Growing evidence shows that micro- and nanoplastics pose emerging risks to ecosystems and human health.

Microbiology has become a platform of scientific innovation, offering strategies such as the production of microbial bioplastics and the biodegradation of synthetic polymers using specialized microorganisms and enzymes. Recent advances in microbial depolymerization, metabolic pathways, and the generation of bio-based chemicals from plastic waste highlight the potential of biotechnology to deliver circular, sustainable solutions.

### Guest Editor

Dr. Alane Beatriz Vermelho

Biotechnology Laboratories, Biocatalysis, Bioproducts and Bioenergy, Institute of Microbiology Paulo de Góes, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Av. Carlos Chagas Filho, 373, Rio de Janeiro 21941-902, Brazil

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 July 2026



**Microorganisms**

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

**Impact Factor 4.2**  
**CiteScore 7.7**  
**Indexed in PubMed**



[mdpi.com/si/265087](https://mdpi.com/si/265087)

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

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





## Microorganisms

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 4.2  
CiteScore 7.7  
Indexed in PubMed



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



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Nico Jehmlich

Department of Molecular Toxicology, UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for  
Environmental Research, 04318 Leipzig, Germany

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, PubAg, CAPus / SciFinder, AGRIS, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Microbiology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Microbiology (medical))

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).