

Special Issue

Functional Foods and Bioactive Ingredients: From Research Through Technology to Product Development

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue of *Molecules* focuses on the rapidly advancing field of bioactive compounds and functional ingredients in foods. With growing consumer interest in diet-related health promotion and disease prevention, there is a pressing need to explore novel sources, extraction methods, bioavailability, mechanisms of action, and innovative applications of food-derived bioactives. This issue aims to compile cutting-edge research and reviews that highlight the role of these compounds in enhancing human health, improving food quality, and driving sustainable food innovation.

Guest Editor

Dr. Zaixiang Lou
School of Food Science and Engineering, Jiangnan University, Wuxi
214122, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 August 2026



Molecules

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 8.6
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/266498

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

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





Molecules

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 8.6
Indexed in PubMed



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



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the premier open access journal dedicated to molecular chemistry, now in its 30th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts, and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on all major fields of molecular chemistry and multidisciplinary topics bridging chemistry with biology, physics, and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting-edge fields in all of these areas.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Thomas J. Schmidt

Institute of Pharmaceutical Biology and Phytochemistry, University of Münster, Corrensstrasse 48, D-48149 Münster, Germany

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Reaxys, CaPlus / SciFinder, MarInLit, AGRIS, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Organic Chemistry)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).