Special Issue

Molecular Mechanisms of Fruit Development and Quality Formation of Oil Tea (*Camellia oleifera*)

Message from the Guest Editors

Oil tea (*Camellia oleifera* Abel) is a unique species of woody oil tree in China. Tea oil is characterized by high amounts of unsaturated fatty acids, with more than 85 percent oleic acids, which is very healthy for the human body. Chinese oil tea plantations have been expanding continuously in recent years, but with low yields and efficiency. In 2020, the cultivation area of oil tea in China was 71.75 million acres, the production of Camellia seeds was 3.14 million tons, and the production of tea oil was approximately 721,000 tons, with an average yield of only 10 kilograms per acre. The cultivation area of oil tea will reach 90 million acres by 2025, but low yields and low efficiency are important factors limiting the high-quality development of the oil tea industry. In addition, low and high temperature and drought are also important adverse factors for yield formation. This Special Issue aims to present high-level, up-to-date research advances covering, but not limited to, flowering, pollination and fertilization, transport of assimilates, developmental properties of fruits and seeds, oil synthesis regulation, yield formation, abiotic resistance, genomics analysis, etc.

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Plants is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to plant function, its physiology, biology, taxonomy, stresses, and its interactions with other organisms. It publishes original research articles, reviews, reports, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. In original research papers, it is important that full experimental details are provided. We also encourage timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the plant research community.

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