Special Issue

Agroecological Genomics and Participatory Strategies Towards the Valorisation of Orphan Crops

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue aims to foster interdisciplinary insights to support sustainable crop improvement and biodiversity preservation, addressing both fundamental science and practical challenges in harnessing the potential of underutilized crops. We aim to emphasize the importance of proper conservation, characterization, and valorization of plant genetic resources (PGRs) from the perspective of improving legume species and neglected crops. Integrative approaches will be highlighted, including omics, evolutionary studies, and evolutionary breeding strategies, as well as participatory science, such as citizen science and farmers' involvement. Research published within this Special Issue should aim to promote agricultural diversification and its adaptation to climate and economic changes through the adoption of minor crops.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Roberto Papa

Department of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, Marche Polytechnic University, 60131 Ancona, Italy

Dr. Valerio Di Vittori

Department of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, Marche Polytechnic University, 60131 Ancona, Italy

Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 September 2026



Plants

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 7.6
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/257043

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

mdpi.com/journal/plants





Plants

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1 CiteScore 7.6 Indexed in PubMed



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Dilantha Fernando

Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2, Canada

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

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

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Plant Sciences) / CiteScore - Q1 (Ecology, Evolution, Behavior and Systematics)

