

Special Issue

Agricultural Microbiology

Message from the Guest Editors

Agroecosystems and yields depend on microbial activity. Microorganisms are involved in all biogeochemical cycles, and the assemblage of microbial communities is the main driver of nutrient pools in soils. Rhizosphere microbiomes play a role in plant growth promotion, with intimate contact with symbionts, and their activity establishes the level of soil fertility. There is a lot of research on microbial pathogens but, by way of comparison, only a small amount on microbial biocontrol potential. Until now, a large number of microbial strains have been collected from agricultural soils and the most efficient ones have been synthesized into bioproducts with multiple roles in agronomy. They are used to control or improve solubilization and fixation of nutrients, in order to raise the native values in the soils; for biocontrol processes as additional or even complete crop protection; for conversion and decomposition of residual biomass; and for ecosystem resilience and soil suppressiveness.

Guest Editors

Dr. Roxana Vidican

Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Calea Mănăştur 3-5, 400372 Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Dr. Erica Lumini

Institute for Sustainable Plant Protection (IPSP), Italian National Research Council (CNR), Viale Mattioli 25, 10125 Torino, Italy

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

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Dilantha Fernando

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

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