

Topical Collection

Botany of Food Plants

Message from the Collection Editor

The number of known edible plant species across the world is approximately 30,000, but only 30 species provide for 95% of the world's food requirements. The decrease of food diversity could lead to negative effects in human health, food security, and food sovereignty. Expanding the diversity of food produced, distributed, and consumed is one of the major challenges of planetary nutrition for the coming years. In this scenario, knowledge about the state of biodiversity available in local food systems becomes crucial for the improvement of dietary tools and for the development of new ones. Wild food plants may play a relevant role in human health and wellbeing. Wild plants are identified as functional foods and consumed because they have a clear positive influence on health as extraordinary sources of nutraceutical substances. Therefore, knowing processing techniques and nutritional composition of wild food plants is as important as making an inventory of species. Last but not least, the implications of knowledge and management of the wild food plants for the conservation strategies of vegetation resources at local and regional levels are also pivotal.

Collection Editor

Prof. Dr. Riccardo Motti

Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Naples Federico II, Via Università 100, 80055, Portici (Naples), Italy



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

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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

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