

Special Issue

Secondary Metabolites in Plants

Message from the Guest Editors

Secondary metabolites (SMs) are diverse organic compounds that are derived through pathways from primary metabolism and generally do not appear to participate directly in the growth as well as development of plants. Although the term “secondary metabolites” may imply a less important role than “primary metabolites” in plants, these compounds play a variety of roles in the interaction of plants with the environment and can be involved in the response against herbivores, microbes (bacteria, fungi), and viruses. Some of them also show the function of signal molecules to attract pollinating insects or seed-dispersing animals and interact with proteins (receptors, ion channels, enzymes, cytoskeleton, and transcription factors), DNA/RNA, and/or biomembranes. SMs are often differentially distributed among limited taxonomic groups within the plant kingdom. Regarding the functions and biosynthetic pathways of SMs, these still remain largely unknown at the moment. This Special Issue aims to reveal the functions and biosynthesis of SMs in plants, as well as biotechnological production of secondary metabolites and studies related to their biological activities.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2025)



Plants

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CiteScore 7.6
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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.

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