Special Issue

Halophytes as a Source of Nutrients: Chemical Composition and Biominerals

Message from the Guest Editors

Throughout evolution, halophyte plants have developed several adaptation mechanisms that can be observed in the morphology, anatomy and physiology. Therefore, saline ecosystems constitute the natural habitat of halophytes and, therefore, a wealth of biodiversity. The physiological adaptation of some halophytes includes ion accumulation in tissues (Na, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, etc.) that can lead to the formation of inorganic and organic salts; the biosynthesis of several organic osmolytes, such as sugars, alcohols, phenols, flavonoids, fatty acids, and other chemical compounds. Thus, they can be considered a source of minerals and of nutrients. Considering this, and the high extension of salinized agricultural soils, the use of halophytes as potential new crops and food sources is essential in the effort to feed the existing population on earth. For this Issue, we invite papers covering the organic and inorganic chemical composition of halophytes; macro- and micropatterns of elemental distribution in organs and tissues; biomineral identification and biomineralization processes; halophytes' physiology and salt tolerance mechanisms related to halophytes' chemical composition.

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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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