Special Issue

Advances in Research on Plant Natural Products

Message from the Guest Editor

Plants are able to generate their own energy from simple precursors and sunlight by photosynthesis, which serves as the primary source of biological energy on our planet. In many cases, ATP can be harnessed for the production of compounds other than those required for central survival functions. These "secondary metabolites", now more properly called natural products, can then be used to help plants evolve and adapt in their environments. As plants are sessile, they are particularly skilled at being responsive to changes in their local environments in order to survive. In addition to their roles in plants, natural products have antioxidant and cytotoxic activities; anti-inflammation and antiallergic properties; as well antibacterial, antifungal, and antiviral activities. They provide pharmaceutical activity against infection and disease when consumed in the human diet. Furthermore, natural products have established roles in reducing the risk of heart disease and cancer. A thorough understanding of the biosynthesis, accumulation, and functioning of natural products is critical for a variety of agricultural, medicinal, and nutraceutical applications.

Guest Editor

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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

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