

Special Issue

Worldwide Evaluations of Quinoa—Biodiversity and Food Security under Climate Change Pressures

Message from the Guest Editors

Quinoa (*Chenopodium quinoa* Willd.) is a herbaceous plant domesticated more than 5000 years BP in the Andean region. The crop is characterized by very high biodiversity, which allows it to adapt easily considering the very different pedoclimatic conditions it faces, as well as makes it resistant to abiotic stresses and climate change proof. Moreover, quinoa is distinguished by its exceptional nutritional characteristics, such as the content and quality of proteins, minerals, lipids, and tocopherols. These features have determined, since the 1990s, the growing interest for quinoa crop by the scientific community and international organizations. In 2013, the United Nations Organization for Food and Agriculture (FAO) celebrated the “International Year of Quinoa” to valorize its biodiversity for fighting against food insecurity. Several experiments around the world have taken place in order to study the quinoa plant, thus evaluating the adaptability of different genotypes in new environments, and its response to various laboratory stimuli and cultivation best practices.

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