Special Issue

Extraction, Characterization, and Properties of Plant Polysaccharides

Message from the Guest Editor

Polysaccharides are not only important structural components of biological organisms, but also an important receptor of signal or information molecules. They participate in molecular recognition, cell adhesion and cell defense mechanisms. Polysaccharides from many plants have the anti-tumor, immune regulation, anti-oxidation, anti-virus, hypoglycemic, anticoagulant functions, to name a few. Moreover, due to the non-toxic, biocompatible and biodegradable characteristics of some plant polysaccharides, they have attracted extensive attention as new functional biomaterials and are widely used in the fields of pharmacy, biomedicine and cosmetics. The chemical structure and conformation of polysaccharide chains play an important role in their biological activity; small changes in molecular structure will affect their activity. In order to isolate natural bioactive polysaccharides from various plants and analyze their structural characteristics and bioactivity, it is helpful to understand the biological mechanisms and structure–activity relationship of polysaccharides.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 December 2022)

Polymers

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.9
CiteScore 9.7
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/122843

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Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.7.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

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