

Special Issue

Automation and Robots in Agriculture

Message from the Guest Editors

Climate change presents unprecedented challenges to grow agricultural crops in many parts of the world along with the ever-increasing demands in food and nutrients from agrifood systems. Therefore, it is urgent to design intelligent and innovative agricultural systems to improve the efficiency of crop production and control environmental impacts caused by, e.g, carbon footprints. Automation and robotics play an essential role in breeding new crop cultivars with the desired performance and optimizing farm management practices. Recently, it has gained increasing attention, and much effort has been invested in developing both hardware platforms and software methodologies for agricultural applications, such as automatic sowing, weeding, cutting, spraying, monitoring, harvesting, sorting, and packaging. There is great room for further growth and the adoption of automatic systems in agricultural production in the future. The objective of this Special Issue is to provide an opportunity to present and promote the most recent research and development in automation and robotics related to agricultural applications.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to our open access journal, *Robotics*, which is dedicated to both the foundations of artificial intelligence, bio-mechanics and mechatronics, and the real-world applications of robotic perception, cognition and actions. The 21st century is the robotics century and intelligent robots will change our lifestyle forever. Let us work together toward the realization of intelligent robots step by step.

It is great fun to create intelligent robots and imagine their practical applications. *Robotics* is now ready to serve you in the long journey towards such a goal.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Marco Ceccarelli

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