



## Effects of Biostimulants on Plant Production Behavior and Sustainability

Guest Editor:

**Dr. Francesco Lops**

Department Science of  
Agriculture, Food and  
Environment (SAFE), University of  
Foggia, 71122 Foggia, Italy

francesco.lops@unifg.it

Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (31 October 2020)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

The use of biostimulants appears to be a promising strategy to enhance plant growth or protect plants against pathogens and other environmental stresses. Biostimulants are among the natural preparations that improve the general health, vitality, and growth of plants and protect them against infections. They can be successfully used in both agri- and horticultural crops. Fungal and bacterial infections may not only reduce yield but may also lead to the loss of the entire harvest. In accordance with the recommendations of the European Union, chemical and mineral plant protection agents are intended to be slowly replaced by natural preparations. The market requires the development of preparations with a broad spectrum of functionality, which is easily applicable and has the possibility of combination with other agents. Biostimulants make many contributions to making agriculture more sustainable. However, the nature of their positive influence is not fully understood, therefore their mechanisms of action are, in some cases, still a challenge and need to be recognized. For this reason, biostimulants are among the hot topics in agriculture and still require detailed research.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

## Editor-in-Chief

### **Prof. Dr. Marc A. Rosen**

Faculty of Engineering and  
Applied Science, University of  
Ontario Institute of Technology,  
Oshawa, ON L1G 0C5, Canada

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in *Sustainability*, an international Open Access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer-reviewed full articles) and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

## Author Benefits

**Open Access:**— free for readers, with [article processing charges \(APC\)](#) paid by authors or their institutions.

**High visibility:** indexed within [Scopus](#), [SCIE](#) and [SSCI \(Web of Science\)](#), [GEOBASE](#), [Inspec](#), [AGRIS](#), [RePEc](#), [CAPlus / SciFinder](#), and many [other databases](#).

**Journal Rank:** [JCR](#) - Q2 (*Environmental Sciences*) / [CiteScore](#) - Q1 (*Geography, Planning and Development*)

## Contact Us

---

*Sustainability*  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
Fax: +41 61 302 89 18  
[www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/sustainability](http://mdpi.com/journal/sustainability)  
[sustainability@mdpi.com](mailto:sustainability@mdpi.com)  
[@Sus\\_MDPI](https://twitter.com/Sus_MDPI)