

Special Issue

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Mainstreaming Underutilized Crops

Message from the Guest Editors

Underutilised crops can sustainably address challenges, enhance agro-ecological diversity, ecosystem services and opportunities for low greenhouse gas (GHG) agriculture as well as terraforming (planting new ecosystems). Their status as a subset of biodiversity provides a nature-based solution to address socio-economic and environmental challenges while enhancing human wellbeing through multiple dimensions such as social cohesion, dignity, equality, and livelihoods derived from use of natural capital. In response to the need to transform existing agriculture systems, one strategy that is rarely explored is the use of neglected and underutilised species (NUS) as a transformative response to climate change and food and nutrition insecurity. The aim of this Special Issue is to highlight inter- and transdisciplinary approaches that focus on the following topics related to NUS:

- transforming agricultural systems in marginal environments,
- biodiversity mainstreaming,
- climate change adaptation/mitigation,
- increasing resource use efficiencies,
- food and nutrition security/ dietary diversity/sustainable diets/food systems,
- human health and well-being.

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