

Special Issue

Waste Utilization in Agriculture and Sustainable Development

Message from the Guest Editor

Agricultural production has increased more than three times over the last 50 years, causing negative impacts on soil, air and water resources. Current concerns such as population growth and increased food and energy prices underline the need to improve the whole agricultural production process. Present methods of agricultural waste disposal comprise incineration, landfill and composting. Even though these are sometimes well-developed methods, they either produce low-value products or toxic gases and bad odors, having a negative impact on the environment. Therefore, the goal is to develop innovative and advanced solutions that will turn agricultural wastes into valuable resources and, at the same time, minimize the negative impact on the environment, mitigating climate change. Agricultural waste materials can be used as soil amendments and fertilizers, composting substrates, biochar feedstock, bioactive compound sources, etc., or for energy recovery. Research topics may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Nutrient recovery;
- Bioactive compound extraction;
- Composting;
- Biochar production;
- Soil amendments;
- Energy production.

Guest Editor

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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. *Sustainability* publishes original research articles, review 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.

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