



*toxins*



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## Development of New Tools for Recognizing Natural Toxins

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### Message from the Guest Editors

The severity of some intoxications derived from natural toxins, and their relation with environmental phenomena such as eutrophication, climate change, water pollution, or intensive agriculture, highlights the need for adequate monitoring tools for the already known molecules and the identification and detection of new toxic compounds.

A great deal of the recent developments for already known toxins rely on advances in new technologies for analytical systems and biosensing (in lab bench analysis and *in situ*), including nanotechnology and microfabrication, new materials, and molecular biology-based methods. The development of selective materials to streamline the preprocessing of the samples for their further analysis or for their specific detection are among the most interesting advances in this field. Among them, molecularly imprinted polymers (MIPs), covalent organic frameworks (COFs), and bioreceptors (antibodies, enzymes, proteins, aptamers) present diverse advantages associated to their particular properties.



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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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