

Special Issue

The Impact of Environmental Factors on the Quality of Horticultural Commodities

Message from the Guest Editor

Just like other food products, horticultural products offered to consumers should be of good quality and, above all, safe to eat. Each step from the field to the table must be subject to procedures that ensure that relevant quality requirements are met. Fruit, vegetables, edible flowers, and other horticultural commodities must fulfill the highest quality standards, which fall into three areas: sensory quality, health-promoting properties and their availability, and the increasingly important symbolic quality. Aside from the growing method, pruning, pollination, protection, and fertilization, product quality is affected by environmental conditions, the most notable of which include all macro- and microclimatic elements and soil environment. Among these conditions is air temperature, which affects physiological processes. Similarly important are precipitation, sun radiation, and wind conditions. These factors play a significant role in shaping the quality of fruit intended for fresh consumption, processing, or therapeutic purposes as a source of bioactive compounds during the growth period.

Guest Editor

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