

Special Issue

Reproductive Biology of Mediterranean, Subtropical and Tropical Crops

Message from the Guest Editors

The challenge of feeding an increasing world population demands an increase in food production. The reproductive biology of crops determines in most cases fruit production, size and quality, although parthenocarpic seedless fruits are also becoming increasingly attractive to consumers. Whatever the case, while the reproductive biology of temperate-zone crops has been well known for decades, an emerging complexity arises for Mediterranean, subtropical and tropical crops that were often neglected in the past. The remarkable improvement in fruit and vegetable production in countries located between the tropics suggests better knowledge on the reproductive biology of these crops deserves better diffusion by means of a dedicated Special Issue. Topics of interest include pollen transport, pollinator behavior, pollen–pistil interaction, flower induction and development, and reproductive systems such as self-incompatibility, dichogamy, herkogamy, distily and tristily and parthenocarpy; cutting-edge research that expands our knowledge of the processes involved in the conversion of a flower in food is most welcome.

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