

Special Issue

Translational Research in Plant Breeding

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear colleagues, Considerable progress has been made in pure plant science research in the last two decades, including our understanding of plant genomes. Nevertheless, relatively few novel ideas have been tested in a breeding context. Translational research should be adopted as a link between fundamental research and plant breeding, as it adds value to both disciplines. Despite the abundance of genomic information, however, a major challenge remains for the transfer of the language of genomics into practical applications. Speeding up the translation of genomics into plant breeding programs would lead to quicker and more accurate plant breeding progress. Crop translational research in the genomics era provides opportunities to discover and develop new breeding tools and to deliver early-warning agronomy tools for crops, particularly those with limited genomic resources. Translational research can accelerate with the use of novel tools of marker-aided selection, phenotyping, and speed breeding.

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