

Special Issue

Plant Natural Compounds: From Discovery to Application

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue will collect original research dealing with the discovery and applications of plant natural compounds. Plants are incredible chemical factories. The therapeutic potential of plants is known and has been codified by human cultures for millennia. Nowadays, researchers have isolated several compounds from different plant taxa (from bryophytes to angiosperms), which have demonstrated a wide range of biological activities: anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, analgesic, antipyretic, antiproliferative, and cytotoxic. However, most of the research has focused on in vitro testing, which has the obvious disadvantage of not telling us how these molecules behave in living organisms. Furthermore, plants are of great interest in the food industry for many purposes. They can be used as nutraceuticals, flavoring, dressing, preservatives, or decontaminating agents or they are exploited for their biological effects on body parts. Natural plant compounds have another field of application in cosmetics: for example, botanical compounds are used as antiaging agents, due to the interesting content of antioxidants.

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