

Special Issue

Sustainable Fertilization Management Consequences to Horticultural Crops

Message from the Guest Editors

To meet the ever-increasing global demand for food, the agricultural community continues to seek innovative practices to boost crop yields without sacrificing the environment. For example "Balanced Fertilization". a balanced fertilization strategy is economically superior and is a sustainable agricultural practice. According to "Liebig's barrel" principle, plant growth is dictated by the scarcest resource (limiting factor) and not by the total resources available. Thus, one nutrient alone cannot ensure the yield, and a balance between the nutrients is essential to ensure attainment of yields according to the genetic potential of the crops. Fertilizer application must be planned to accommodate any variability. The main factors for consideration are crop type, anticipated yield, the naturally available nutrients in the soil and the changes in nutrients required by a particular crop during its growth cycle. Application programmes that do not sufficiently account for these variations in uptake can lead to incorrect fertilization. Hence, research in this field must be up to date and is crucial for science and the practice of horticulture.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Horticultural plants and their products provide sustenance, health, and beauty. A confluence of factors is putting increasing pressure on horticultural production to evolve, and innovative research is addressing these challenges. *Horticulturae* provides a venue to communicate research results in a rapid manner with open access, allowing everyone the opportunity to stay abreast of leading research addressing horticulture. I invite you to consider publishing the results of your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed journal.

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