

Special Issue

Genetic Improvement in Coconut

Message from the Guest Editors

Coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera* L.), a typical tropical tree, belongs to the Areaceae family and grows in 93 countries across more than 11 million hectares. This tree holds significant value for its versatile fruit: coconut water is a refreshing beverage, which is nutritious and beneficial for health; and coconut meat is rich in oil and processed into numerous economic products. To promote the breeding process of coconut, it is critical to obtaining genetic information for the usage of molecular-assisted breeding and genomic editing technology in coconut. Analyzing the genetic basis of coconut agronomic trait variation, identifying the candidate genes responsible, screening and validating elite alleles, and developing molecular markers are vital for genetic improvement in coconut. This Special Issue of *Plants* will focus on dissection the genetic basis for important agronomic traits, identification of natural mutation associated with trait variations and development of molecular markers, usage of multiple omics to screen and validate the genes associated with target traits.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Plants is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to plant function, its physiology, biology, taxonomy, stresses, and its interactions with other organisms. It publishes original research articles, reviews, reports, and conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. In original research papers, it is important that full experimental details are provided. We also encourage timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the plant research community.

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