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Food By-Products as Potential Sources of Natural Antioxidants: Latest Research Findings

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Message from the Guest Editors

In recent decades, the growing knowledge of the beneficial effects of foods containing molecules with antioxidant function, combined with the assumption that a number of common synthetic antioxidants may have harmful effects for the consumer, has led the food chemistry community to strengthen research in the field of natural antioxidants. Natural antioxidants are not only able to scavenge free radicals, but can also inactivate metal catalysts by chelation, reducing hydroperoxides into stable hydroxyl derivatives, and interacting synergistically with other reducing compounds.

Notorious sources of natural antioxidants are vegetables, fruits, herbs, medicinal plants and spices. Additionally, a wide variety of agricultural residues and food by-products have recently been demonstrated to be potential sources of natural antioxidants.

We are delighted to invite you to contribute your latest research findings in this Special Issue, with the hope of emphasizing the potential for multidisciplinary approaches to the complex set of challenges observed in the study of natural antioxidants.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

It has been recognized in medical sciences that in order to prevent adverse effects of "oxidative stress" a balance exists between prooxidants and antioxidants in living systems. Imbalances are found in a variety of diseases and chronic health situations. Our journal *Antioxidants* serves as an authoritative source of information on current topics of research in the area of oxidative stress and antioxidant defense systems. The future is bright for antioxidant research and since 2012, *Antioxidants* has become a key forum for researchers to bring their findings to the forefront.

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