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The Role of Epi- and Endophytic Nitrogen Fixation in Natural and Anthropogenic Landscapes

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues

Plants are generally classified as "N₂-fixing", based entirely on the ability to form root nodules. However, many plant species are not nodule-forming, yet effectively colonize Npoor sediments. Over the last few decades, studies have demonstrated that N₂-fixing endophytic bacteria can be found throughout the plant body of some plant species and epiphytic bacteria have been found to bind tightly to leaves, rhizoids and root surfaces of plants. While some have argued that N₂-fixation must be limited to microaerobic root nodules to prevent inactivation of the nitrogenase enzyme by oxygen, multiple lines of evidence demonstrate that N-fixation is possible in and on planta. N₂-fixing bacteria evolved multiple methods to protect nitrogenase from oxygen, and microaerobic environments conducive to N-fixation do exist within plant tissues.

This Special Issue of Nitrogen will host current research, knowledge and thinking on epi- and endophytic N₂ fixation and serve as a spring board for research development in the world of N₂ fixation.

Prof. Thomas H. DeLuca *Guest Editor*





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Nitrogen, the element that is intimately associated with essentially all processes on Earth, is the broad focus of a new online, open access journal. The intention of this publication is to offer a venue for research papers, reviews, short notes, and communications that have as a nexus this critical element.

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