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Crop Water Stress and Deficit Irrigation

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Message from the Guest Editor

Freshwater is the most essential resource for the survival of all organisms. Only 2.5% of the planet's stock is freshwater, and most is stored in glaciers and deep groundwater, only a small amount being easily available. All of this, combined with increasing anthropogenic pressure, is turning water scarcity into a widespread concern. Further, climate change is expected to disrupt hydrological regimes and water availability.

In this sense, agriculture is the largest freshwater user. Additionally, its continued growth is increasing the severity of water scarcity and the frequency of imbalance situations between water supply and demand occurring in agrosystems. These facts highlight the need to maximize crop water productivity. Moreover, among the tools that growers can use to achieve this goal, there should be more precise irrigation strategies and scheduling procedures that will protect water resources and their integrity for their future use.

Therefore, the aim of this Special Issue is to gather innovative approaches in management or modeling deficit irrigation strategies, as well as research on tools and mechanisms involved in the response of crops to water stress.







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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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