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Integrated Pest Management Systems in Agriculture

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Renata Bažok

Division of Phytomedicine,
Department for Agricultural
Zoology, Faculty of Agriculture,
University of Zagreb,
Svetosimunska 25, 10000 Zagreb,
Croatia

Dr. Ivana Pajač Živković

Division of Phytomedicine,
Department for Agricultural
Zoology, Faculty of Agriculture,
University of Zagreb,
Svetosimunska 25, 10000 Zagreb,
Croatia

Dr. Helena Virić Gašparić

Division of Phytomedicine,
Department for Agricultural
Zoology, Faculty of Agriculture,
University of Zagreb,
Svetosimunska 25, 10000 Zagreb,
Croatia

Message from the Guest Editors

Agriculture contributes most to current human-induced climate change. However, crop productivity is at risk due to the increasing incidence of pests and diseases. A warmer climate and extreme weather events have led to a loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, which has a significant impact on plant pests and the damage they cause. EU phytosanitary and environmental policies have defined the common challenge of reducing dependence on chemicals, improving food quality, and increasing the potential for the development of more bio-based and biotech-oriented production systems. To promote this transition and prioritize preventive crop protection based on agro-ecological practices to prevent pest outbreaks and infestations, we need a change of direction and paradigm. The measures taken by EU Member States to reduce pesticide use are based on the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). However, current crop protection in the EU is still largely based on curative crop protection with chemical pesticides.

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Prof. Dr. Les Copeland

Sydney Institute of Agriculture,
School of Life and Environmental
Sciences, The University of
Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006,
Australia

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Contact Us

Agriculture Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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