



## Maize Genetic Diversity and Seed Productivity

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Maize is a crop of strategic importance for humanity. It is possible to cultivate it from sea level to altitudes greater than 3000 meters, in arid lands or wetlands, in acid or saline soils, with technologies spanning from rudimentary to highly mechanized, thanks to its extraordinary genetic diversity.

The genetic diversity of maize is a highly valuable resource, for which the geographical distribution must be quantified and studied, since it constitutes a toolbox to face unpredictable situations, such as the appearance of new pests and diseases, or abiotic stresses derived from climate change. The genetic diversity of maize can be used immediately for the generation of seeds of higher productivity cultivars, which contribute to solving the problems of food shortages in the face of the notable increase in the human population.

In this context, this Special Issue aims to gather knowledge about the magnitude of the current diversity of maize in different regions of the world using traditional and modern techniques for its assessment, as well as to analyze the experiences on the efficiency of its use through genetic improvement.





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