



## Sustainable Production Systems and Material Utilization of Plant Biomass

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The sustainable cultivation of biomass plants should be the aim. Perennial crops in particular are characterized by so-called ecosystem services such as refuges for beneficial organisms, pollen and nectar sources for insects, humus formation, and/or erosion control. The outcome of the sustainable production, valuable biomass, has to be used more intelligently. However, for many years, research was focused on the energetic use of biomass (e.g., for heating). In several cases, a high-value or superior material use of biomass is possible. Examples of the material use of plant biomass include substrates, building construction and packaging materials based on biomass. Some of these bio-based products can be used several times in cascade utilization and should only be used to produce energy at the end of their life cycle. The goal must be to understand biomass as a valuable raw material, which can be used sustainably and innovatively throughout the entire value chain.

Prof. Dr. Ralf Pude  
*Guest Editor*





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