



Conservation on The Move: Towards Sustainable Conservation and Use of Crop Wild Relatives

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Crop wild relatives (CWRs) have been widely used in crop improvement, for example, to enhance disease resistance, improve tolerance to abiotic constraints, or to improve quality. We will need CWRs in the future more than ever as sources for novel traits that will make our crops climate robust and suitable for future food systems while delivering other ecosystem services. The use of CWRs will most likely also become more productive and easier with the further development of novel breeding techniques, provided they are available for such use.

At the same time, CWRs are threatened by global change, including changes in current land cover, loss of habitats caused by urbanization, and changing rainfall patterns. There is an urgent need to act for worldwide conservation of what is left of crop wild relatives and their habitats based on a thorough gap analyses.

This Special Issue welcomes papers on trends in the dynamics of wild populations, ecological spread, conservation, availability, and use of crop wild relatives.





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