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## Quality of Grains and Grain-Based Foods Volume II

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### Message from the Guest Editor

The quality of grains (cereals, pseudocereals, legumes, etc.) is a very broad and nebulous topic that covers many different meanings and aspects. Grain quality largely depends on the species, genotype, environment and their interactions, as well as the grain's end use. Quality is defined by a wide range of properties and factors. Physical quality includes yield, purity, moisture content, bulk density, kernel size, grain length, grain width, kernel hardness, vitreousness, kernel density, chalkiness, damaged kernels, color etc. Sanitary quality is associated with fungal infection, mycotoxins, insects and mites and their fragments or by-products, foreign material and dust. Nutritional quality is related to intrinsic characteristics such as the content of carbohydrates, fibers, proteins, lipids and micronutrients. Finally, grain quality can be related to process-related characteristics. Grain-based foods are a dietary staple around the world. An emerging challenge faced by food processes mostly characterized by oxidation phenomena is how to keep and improve the nutritional and sanitary qualities of grain-based food products whilst maintaining or improving health benefits.



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**Special** Issue



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