



Morel Crops: Cultivation, Breeding and Their Processing Innovation

Guest Editors:

Prof. Yongchang Zhao

Biotechnology and Germplasm
Resources Institute, Yunnan
Academy of Agricultural
Sciences, Kunming 650223, China

Dr. Hao Tan

Sichuan Institute of Edible Fungi,
Sichuan Academy of Agricultural
Sciences, Chengdu 610000, China

Dr. Xi-Hui Du

College of Life Sciences,
Chongqing Normal University,
Chongqing 401331, China

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Commonly known as morels, species of *Morchella* are important gourmet mushrooms in Ascomycota. *Morchella rufobrunnea* (the so-called red-blushing morel) and species of black morels in the Elata clade of *Morchella* were once only wild-foraged, but have been domesticated as horticultural crops, feasible to cultivate artificially in recent decades. The scale of commercialized morel cultivation is expanding very rapidly. For instance, the area of black morel cultivation in China has expanded about two thousand times since 2012. While the innovative morel industry is thriving all over the world, several problems are always hampering its sustainable development: the lack of cultivars with improved performances; technologies for stable and high yield are still underdeveloped; the lack of elucidation of the chemical constitution with healthy effects; and limited diversified and value-added morel products. To aim of this Special Issue is to gradually promote some progresses of solving these problems.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Luigi De Bellis

Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences and Technologies, Università del Salento, Centro Ecotekne, via Provinciale Lecce Monteroni, 73100 Lecce, Italy

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Horticultural plants and their products provide sustenance, health, and beauty. A confluence of factors is putting increasing pressure on horticultural production to evolve, and innovative research is addressing these challenges. *Horticulturae* provides a venue to communicate research results in a rapid manner with open access, allowing everyone the opportunity to stay abreast of leading research addressing horticulture. I invite you to consider publishing the results of your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed journal.

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Horticulturae Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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horticulturae@mdpi.com
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