Special Issue

Application of Chars in Growing Media

Message from the Guest Editors

Currently, char substrates are receiving a great deal of interest, and are being discussed as one component in growing media that may become an option for the replacement of peat. Among different thermal conversion processes of biomass, hydrothermal carbonization (HTC) and pyrolysis are the main techniques to be considered in this Special Issue. The mixture of chars with other substitutes such as compost and fibres is one option for the development of new types of tailor-made growing media. The objective of this Special Issue is to summarize results from new studies dealing with different kinds of biomass residues (prunings, fibres, bark, digestate, etc.) that have been thermochemically converted under controlled conditions. A post-treatment of the produced chars may be included in order to enhance the quality of a new growing medium, which is tested in germination and plant growth experiments in the laboratory or the greenhouse. Further aspects are the availability of the organic residues for the char production, the quality assessment of chars, and the economic feasibility of their use.

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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