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Advances in Genome Editing

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Message from the Guest Editors

Since the birth of civilization, human beings have manipulated other life forms. The ability to directly engineer the genomes of organisms first became possible in the 1970s, when the gene for human insulin was introduced into bacteria to produce this protein for diabetics. In the past few years, the pace of progress has accelerated enormously. We can now cut and paste genes using ‘molecular scissors’ with astonishing ease, and the new technology of genome editing can be applied to practically any species of plants or animals.

Genome editing is transforming medical research and is already being tested as a direct treatment for human disease. However, these powerful new techniques also raise important ethical dilemmas and potential dangers, pressing issues that we need to face, given the speed of scientific developments.

This Special Issue will consider papers on new scientific developments in genome editing and their latest implications in various areas of biotechnology.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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