



Legume Genetics and Biology: From Mendel's Pea to Legume Genomics

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Message from the Guest Editors

The Fabaceae is the third largest family of flowering plants, with over 800 genera and 20,000 species. It is an extremely diverse family of worldwide distribution, from arctic alpine herbs, to annual xerophytes and forest trees. Legumes have played an important part in cropping systems since the dawn of agriculture. Their ability to symbiotically fix nitrogen and improve soil fertility has been rewarded since antiquity. Legumes have always been a part of everyday life, as human food and animal feed, being key protein sources. Peas have been extensively used in early hybridization studies, and they were the model organism of choice for Mendel's discovery of the laws of inheritance, making peas part of the foundation of modern genetics. Now, certain legume crops have well-studied genetic systems, while in many of these, comprehensive genetic analysis is limited due to the large size of their genomes. This Special Issue addresses/aims to provide up-to-date information on legume biology, genetic advances, and the legacy of Mendel.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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