



Future Foods: Innovations Addressing Global Challenges in Health, Nutrition, Sustainability, and Ethics

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Message from the Guest Editors

By 2050, the worldwide population will reach 9 billion, further increasing the already substantial global malnutrition burden, compounded by the anticipated ongoing decline in food production due to climate change. In this context, future foods (FFs) have the primary goal to address the abovementioned diet challenges with respect to human health, safety, and environmental. Biotechnology and genetic engineering, vertical, hydroponic, and insect farming, as well as meat cultivation and alternative food production technologies (3D food printing) have been recently implemented for the production of FFs.

FFs may affect the risk, occurrence, and symptoms of numerous diseases, but more trials are needed to assess their potential long-term benefits/damages. FFs may also provide essential nutrients in non-customary ways, potentially addressing nutritional deficiencies, thus promoting overall wellbeing. Therefore, it is imperative to assess the safety and quality of FFs through comparative studies with traditional foods. Food traditions, societal values, and the fair treatment of resources are non-negligible factors that may raise ethical concerns regarding the adoption of FFs.





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