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Lipid Genes and Biotechnology in Plants

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (20 October 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Plant lipids are a component of cell membranes, with a role in providing protection from the external environment, and acting as an energy source. They also play a role in cell signaling. After the first report on the fatty acid desaturase genes in the model plant *Arabidopsis* by Dr. John Browse of Washington State University, many researchers discovered the function of genes involved in lipid synthesis and regulation using *Arabidopsis* mutants. After the genome sequencing of *Arabidopsis* was completed, Dr. John Ohlrogge of Michigan State University created the “Arabidopsis Acyl-Lipid Metabolism” database (<http://aralip.plantbiology.msu.edu/pathways/pathways>) that organized lipid genes. However, many studies on the function of lipid genes have not yet been completed in *Arabidopsis*. Plant lipids not only supply essential fatty acids to humans, but are also used for industrial purposes. Biotechnology to produce health and industrial lipids from plants is needed. This Special Issue deals with the study of the function of lipid genes in model plants and crops and the study of biotechnology related to lipid metabolism.



mdpi.com/si/68727

Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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