



Flax: A Traditional Culture with Modern Advantages

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Message from the Guest Editors

Linum usitatissimum L. (common flax) is one of the oldest domesticated plants. Flax is unique because it was domesticated for two very different phenotypes, namely a phenotype with an unbranched stem for the development of long linen fibers (flax), and a small, shorter bushy phenotype for high seed yield (linseed). Flax is an important source of fiber. Its seeds are a rich source of both a health-promoting oil, namely omega 3, α -linolenic acid (ALA) and lignans, in particular secoisolariciresinol diglucoside (SDG). It is self-pollinated, diploid, and has a relatively small genome which was recently released, which are key features which make flax an ideal crop for breeding and genetic studies. Flax breeding will greatly benefit from the development of flax genomics and metabolomics.

In this Issue, we encourage investigators to consider submitting reviews, research papers, and short communications focusing on the different aspects (including breeding and culture strategies, bioproduct and byproduct valorization, development of molecular tools such as genomics and metabolomics, applications (e.g., fiber, nutraceuticals, health, cosmetic)) of flax.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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