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Medicinal Plants and Natural Products in South America

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Message from the Guest Editors

Brazilian biodiversity is one of the widest on the planet. It is distributed in different biomes, such as the Amazon, Pampa, Pantanal, Caatinga, Atlantic Forest and Cerrado (the most diverse savanna in the world), in addition to the immense area of the so-called Blue Amazon—the Atlantic Ocean area, reaching 5.7 million square kilometers. The Atlantic Forest alone has 20,000 plant species, about 35% of those existing in the country. This diversity is greater than all of North America (17,000) or Europe (12,500).

In addition, the country has a well-established scientific community that studies from medicinal plants to microorganisms, and natural products from marine, terrestrial and freshwater environments.

This upcoming Special Issue of *Plants* will provide a comprehensive understanding of the state of the art of natural products in Brazil, a particularly interesting area in research on foods, drugs, energy, perfumes, cosmetics, platform molecules, among many others.













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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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