



Exploring Agricultural Heritage in European and Mediterranean Countries

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Message from the Guest Editors

European and Mediterranean rural areas have undergone significant changes in the last few decades, mainly due to two opposite phenomena: the abandonment of marginal rural areas and the intensification of the agricultural practices. Despite these changes, Europe and the Mediterranean basin still retain important traditional agricultural areas, that in the last years have become particularly important for the sustainable development of rural areas. At international level, the GIAHS programme promoted by FAO is specifically dedicated to agricultural heritage systems, with the aim of identifying agricultural systems of global importance, preserving their landscape, agro-biodiversity, traditional knowledge, applying the principles of dynamic conservation. The Special Issue aims to present different examples of agricultural heritage across Europe and Mediterranean countries, highlighting varieties and different forms of management, as well as their importance for local communities.





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