



Fruit Breeding, Germplasms Identification and Evaluation

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Message from the Guest Editors

Breeders all over the world are particularly interested in the constitution of cultivars with a superior fruit quality (size, organoleptic characteristics, and being seedless), resistance to biotic and abiotic stress, and offering a high yield. In this context, the local germplasm, harboring traits of great agronomic interest, could represent an important source of ecological interest in detecting novel sources of traits of agronomical interest such as drought resistance, a low chill requirement, adaptation to hot and dry summer conditions, and low pest and disease incidence. Pomological and genotypic analyses have become powerful tools for (i) cultivar identification, (ii) the evaluation of genetic diversity, and (iii) parentage analyses. This is a pivotal step to consider for the establishment of novel breeding programs and, as such, the valorization of ancient germplasm coupled with new breeding programs represents a valid tool for the mitigation of the effect of climate change for fruit tree crops.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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