



## **Sustainable Cropping Systems and Biomasses for Energy and Biorefinery Applications**

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Nicolai David Jablonowski**

Forschungszentrum Jülich,  
Institute of Bio- and Geosciences,  
IBG-2: Plant Sciences, 52425  
Jülich, Germany

**Dr. Moritz von Cossel**

Biobased Resources in the  
Bioeconomy (340b), Institute of  
Crop Science, University of  
Hohenheim, 70599 Stuttgart,  
Germany

**Dr. Yasir Iqbal**

College of Bioscience and  
Biotechnology, Hunan  
Agricultural University, Changsha  
410128, China

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### **Message from the Guest Editors**

In the competing uses of plant biomasses, the food vs. fuel conflict appears to be the most prominent mainly.

Marginal agricultural or contaminated lands or derelict soils are being discussed as potential alternatives for biomass production. Moreover, such alternative production areas often promise to add ecological value through restoring or enhancing biodiversity while comprising the risk of affecting biodiversity. Areas with marginal soil characteristics are available worldwide. To unlock the potential of these areas, and simultaneously sustain the productivity of agricultural soils, a holistic approach comprised of (i) adapted biomass plants, (ii) alternative and sustainable cropping systems and (iii) efficient fertilization strategies needs to be investigated and employed. Securing or promoting biodiversity may become crucial in terms of (indirect) land-use changes (iLUC/LUC) associated with biomass production, and this requires careful consideration when opening and employing new areas for biomass production.

Besides, smart bioenergy, material use and biorefinery value chains should be implemented to decarbonize the economy. We cordially invite all kinds of articles.





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### **Prof. Dr. Peter Langridge**

School of Agriculture, Food and  
Wine, University of Adelaide,  
Urrbrae, SA 5064, Australia

## **Message from the Editor-in-Chief**

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*Agronomy* Editorial Office  
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