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Antioxidant Capacity of Anthocyanins and other Vegetal Pigments: Modern Assisted Extraction Methods and Analysis

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (15 January 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Many progress of antioxidant studies depends largely on the development of efficient analytical methods and strategies that allow the isolation and analysis of the active principles themselves from the plant world, posing difficult challenges to solve. Areas such as biochemistry, food processing and analytical chemistry are thus involved in the food and health aspects. In this direction, emerging novel (greener) methods of non-thermal assisted extraction (and modern classics such as enzyme and ultrasound assisted extraction) have notably increased in the last two decades, the matter having aroused considerable interest in the field, enabling faster mass transfer, reducing solvent consumption, saving operating time and increasing the extraction yield, i.e., maximizing pigment recovery with minimal degradation or alteration of its natural state. Furthermore, in order to reach definitive conclusions, the multiple potential beneficial effects of natural pigments on health require one to carry out extensive basic and applied research in the area to accurately ascertain their biological properties and behaviour in the living organism.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

It has been recognized in medical sciences that in order to prevent adverse effects of "oxidative stress" a balance exists between prooxidants and antioxidants in living systems. Imbalances are found in a variety of diseases and chronic health situations. Our journal *Antioxidants* serves as an authoritative source of information on current topics of research in the area of oxidative stress and antioxidant defense systems. The future is bright for antioxidant research and since 2012, *Antioxidants* has become a key forum for researchers to bring their findings to the forefront.

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Journal Rank: JCR - Q1 (*Food Science & Technology*) / CiteScore - Q1 (*Food Science*)

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