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EDITORIAL

Horticultural crops growth and development under the influence of various factors—Theme in Volume 6, Issue 1

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Horticulture is a branch of agriculture with the primary goal of researching the genetic laws and the growth and development of horticultural crops. Horticulture crops, such as fruit crops, vegetable crops, and ornamentals, have a close relationship with people's daily lives. This issue (Volume 6, Issue 1) mainly provides an exploration of the physical and chemical characteristics of horticultural crops and how various factors impact horticultural crops. These studies have yielded important knowledge on related horticultural crops as well as helpful recommendations for boosting horticultural crop productivity and optimizing crop planting techniques. In addition, this issue covers the subject of horticultural crops after harvest.

The research on the specific physical and chemical characteristics of horticultural crops provides valuable information and brings practical significance to people. For example, de Lima *et al*.[1] found that both the mass of the pumpkin fruits and the genotype influence the physical and chemical parameters of an experimental cabotiá hybrid compared to the commercial hybrid Tetsukabuto, and pumpkin fruits that are not currently marketed for their size showed positive physicochemical characteristics.

Horticultural crops undergo growth and development under the influence of various factors. Therefore, it is crucial to investigate how different factors affect horticulture crops to develop better planting strategies and insightful recommendations for raising horticultural crop yields. This issue's several articles center on how inorganic and organic chemicals affect horticulture crops. Hussain *et al*.[2] investigated the effects of HA on various growth parameters and productivity of the red radish genotypes, aiming to determine the optimal level of HA for improving growth, yield, and other parameters of this crop. Their findings have implications for promoting the cultivation of specific red radish varieties to benefit farmers and enhance the local economy[2]. Mohsenzadeh *et al*.[3] found that humic acid and spirulina microalgae can serve as positive plant bioactivators for safflower by boosting its growth and reducing stress.

Additionally, one article in this issue discusses apple production systems and post-harvest management. Through the assessment of production, harvest, postharvest handling, and marketing status of apple farming across the North Shewa Zone, rules for better production of apples are found.

We deeply appreciate the authors' permission to authorize us to share their insightful ideas.

References

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