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Biological Activity of Plant Compounds and Extracts

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Message from the Guest Editors

The use of plants for their beneficial effects dates back to the first steps in human history, as shown by Ebers Papyrus (1500 BC). Thus, the identification and classification of plant extracts and their compounds showing biological activity has attracted a huge number of ancient and modern researchers. However, after centuries of active research in this field and in spite of the remarkable recent advances in chemical synthesis, plants remain the most powerful and somewhat under-investigated source of bioactive molecules. In addition, in the last decades, the search for novel and more ecofriendly compounds has been strictly emphasised, thus further increasing the interest in plant metabolites. This is particularly true especially in some fields, such as pest control, in which botanical pesticides represent a valuable alternative to traditional chemicals since their use reduces the risk to non-target organisms and the probability of developing pest resistance.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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