



### Special Issue "Sustainable Horticulture in the Mediterranean: From Field to Shelf"

This issue will explore key scientific and technical advances needed to face the increasing challenges in horticultural, fruit, grape, and olive production across the Mediterranean region—including both southern Europe (Italy, France, Spain, Greece) and North African and Middle Eastern countries (Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, etc.).

We would be delighted if you would consider contributing a research article, short communication, or review to this issue.

AHS is Diamond Open Access: it does not require publication fees (APC, Article Processing Charges) from authors.

#### *Important Dates*

- Manuscript submission deadline: **30/04/2026**
- Expected publication: **31/12/2026**
- Submission platform: <https://oaj.fupress.net/index.php/ahs/index>

#### *Scope and Rationale*

This special issue invites contributions that explore how horticultural, fruit, olive, and grape production systems across the Mediterranean Basin are adapting to mounting challenges posed by climate change, water scarcity, land degradation, and shifting socio-economic dynamics. The Mediterranean region, while diverse, shares agroecological constraints and cultural traditions that make it a unique arena for developing resilient, climate-smart cropping systems and innovative postharvest and value chain strategies.

We welcome multidisciplinary studies addressing:

- Genotype × Environment interactions and cultivar selection for drought, heat, and salinity tolerance;
- Sustainable soil and water management in open field and protected cultivation systems;
- Agroecological practices (e.g., organic farming, cover crops, biodiversity-based approaches);
- Postharvest technologies aimed at reducing losses and extending shelf-life under resource-limited conditions;
- Digital tools and decision support systems for precision horticulture;
- Socio-economic studies on smallholder resilience, agri-food value chains, and North–South cooperation in Mediterranean agriculture.

The issue aims to foster knowledge exchange among researchers and stakeholders from **southern Europe** (e.g., Italy, France, Spain, Greece) and **southern Mediterranean countries** (e.g., Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon), encouraging cross-border dialogue and collaborative innovation for a more resilient and equitable horticultural future in the region.

### **Scientific Committee**

#### *Editor in Chief:*

- Prof. Elisa Masi - DAGRI, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

#### *Co-Editor in Chief:*

- Prof. Francois Bouteau - Université Paris-Cité, Paris, France

#### *Editorial Management:*

- Cinzia Silori - DAGRI, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

#### *Guest editorial board members:*

- Dr Sofiane Abdelhamid - Olive Institute, Tunisia

- Dr Delphine Arbelet-Bonn - Université Paris-Cité, Paris, France

- Dr Cecilia Brunetti - CNR Istituto per la Protezione Sostenibile delle Piante, Italy

- Dr Roberta Caridi (PhD student) - Dipartimento Agraria, Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria, Italy

- Prof Farouk El-Aidy - Dept. of Horticulture, Fac. of Agriculture, Kafrelsheikh University, Egypt

- Dr Etienne Grésillon - Université Paris-Cité, Paris, France

- Prof Elettra Marone – Dipartimento di Bioscienze e Tecnologie Agro-Alimentari e Ambientali, Università degli Studi di Teramo, Italy

- Prof Moulay Mustapha Ennaji - Institution Faculté des Sciences et Techniques Mohammedia, Université Hassan II de Casablanca, Morocco

- Prof Antonio Ferrante - Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy

- Prof Francesco Ferrini - DAGRI, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

- Prof Edgardo Giordani - DAGRI, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

- Dr Antonella Gori - DAGRI, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

- Dr Patrick Laurenti - Université Paris-Cité, Paris, France

- Prof Stefano Mancuso - DAGRI, Università degli

- Dr Hafiza Komal Naeem (PhD student) - DAGRI, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

- Prof Alberto Pardossi - Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Alimentari e Agro-ambientali, Università di Pisa, Italy

- Prof Agostino Sorgonà - Dipartimento Agraria, Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria, Italy

- Prof Sihem Tellah - Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique (ENSA), Algeria