“Journal of Horticulture and Plant Research” - New Open Access Scholarly Journal

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Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Editorial Board and with this first issue, we are very pleased to announce the launch of the **Journal of Horticulture and Plant Research (JHPR)** which is published and owned by the **Publishing House SciPress Ltd, Switzerland**.

Horticulture originated from aesthetic agriculture in a confined garden. Then Horticulture slowly changed its stand toward high value return crops per unit area, time and input with the ultimate aim of food and nutrition security for the ever-increasing worldwide population. Various definitions of horticulture are obtained from leading authorities. J. Janick [1] defined Horticulture as that branch of agriculture which is concerned with intensive cultivation of horticultural plants or crops that are used by people for food, for medicinal purposes, and for aesthetic gratification. Its application through research has led to improved varieties of plants to benefit our daily lives. Therefore, without any doubts, Horticulture affects everyone and plays today a crucial role in our lives.

Having been a research subfield of agriculture and plant science for thousands of years ago, nowadays Horticultural research still shares many aspects with agronomic crop research and general plant science, breeding crops for greater yield and higher quality in terms of longer shelf life and richer nutrients, and understanding the principle processes of plant life such as growth, development, reproduction, and adaptation to diverse environments and resistance to diseases, insects and abiotic stresses [2]. Nevertheless, today Horticulture research itself is a unique subject which includes the broad and diverse areas from the basic horticulture research to the application of advanced agriculture-genetic engineering such as advanced molecular breeding and genome-sequencing tools.

During this decade, modern agriculture is facing with serious new challenges due to increasing pressures of rapid population growth, changing of climate, deficit of quality fresh water as well as reducing arable lands, which have caused many difficulties to fulfill the food needs of the world.

Scientists in the field of Horticulture and Plant science have to play an important role in solving some of these problems. Integrative applications of modern horticultural research and biotechnological achievements will be the key factors to enhance agricultural productivity, food and nutritional security in the foreseeable future.

We are launching the new journal to promote seeking for sustainable solutions in horticultural research to ameliorate health and to make a difference to the quality of life for the world as well as to promote science-based applications that increase crops yield and longevity.

This new **Journal of Horticulture and Plant Research** is positioned to provide a scholarly, open access forum with the focus on the publication of high quality research articles in the areas of horticulture, horticultural plant research and in a wide range of horticulture-related fields. The aim of the journal is to become a highly trusted resource for sharing comprehensive information in the fields of horticulture and plant research among the scientists and researchers worldwide.

The **Journal** is devoted to the publication of original empirical and theoretical research articles, novel findings, from the basic to the practically applied, as well as short communications, reviews and opinion articles on the topics of horticulture, horticultural methodologies, climate – resilient horticulture, plant science and all major horticultural crops including: vegetable growing, fruit growing, ornamental plants growing, flowers growing, herbs and tea trees both in preharvest and postharvest stages/quality; plant genetics and breeding, genomics and cytology, cellular and molecular biology, plant pathology, plant physiology, plant traits, seed science, weed science, crop production, crop nutrition, soil science.

We would like to invite the scientists who are engaged in basic and practical research of horticultural crops to submit your articles to the Journal and share your suggestions, comments, thoughts, and ideas that can contribute to the development of this new journal to best serve the horticultural research community.

We believe that the **Journal of Horticulture and Plant Research** will be one of the best preferable journals for the publication of high quality articles on the aspects of the horticultural research.

References

- [1] J. Janick, Horticultural Science, 2nd ed. W.H. Freeman and Company, San Francisco, 1972.
- [2] Z.M. Cheng, Inaugural editorial, Horticulture Research. 1 (2014) Article number 5.