

EDITORIAL NOTE

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The Colombian Society of Horticultural Sciences (SCCH) and the Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia (UPTC) as editors of the Colombian Journal of Horticultural Sciences wish to extend our special greetings to our authors and readers in these moments when the world is undergoing a difficulty of great proportions, which has been affecting the work of the world community and neither science nor technology has been able to remain outside the effects of the well-known COVID19 pandemic. However, with all the difficulties, the horticultural scientists in the world continue to work and show their results in the generation of new knowledge, as a contribution to the solution of the agricultural food problem in different countries.

One of our contributions in Horticultural Sciences is to present the volume 15 issue 2 (2021) to our authors and readers, which has 15 articles available in English, with a digital journal structure under the modality of the continuous publication: the accepted manuscripts are published first and later the final versions of the manuscripts are published. In the contents of this issue, the Fruit Tree section contributed to five articles. Three of these deal with the research results in three tropical species, guava, cape gooseberry, and champa, and two articles are devoted to deciduous crops cultivated in the tropical conditions, the peach and apple trees. For the tropical species, the issues of identification of new genetic resources for cape gooseberry, *Physalis peruviana*, are explained with focus on its potential uses for industry or fresh consumption. A review article is devoted to the ecophysiology of guava cultivation that will guide the new research projects in this area. In champa species, the effects of the interaction of ethylene, 1-methylcyclopropene and low temperatures are shown on the postharvest behavior of this promising fruit for Colombia. For deciduous species, as the peach trees, the relationship between the weed population, the type of soil, and its interaction with the Rubidoux variety of peach is shown; in apple trees, an article deals with the growth of fruits and the physicochemical changes in fruits in the highland tropical areas.

The section of Vegetables for this issue includes publications related to plant genetic resources, in particular, the genotype-environment interaction in cherry tomato, heritability and genetic gain in cowpea beans, and morphological characterization of pea (*Pisum sativum*) genotypes. Also, the information on new technologies is included, such as the use of multispectral images for the evaluation of the efficacy of herbicides in peas grown under protected conditions. The Aromatic, medicinal and herb section provides an article on hydroponic systems for the cultivation of basil using treated domestic effluents, a topic of great importance today.

Our new section, which we have called Other crops, continues to increase its content and, for this issue, presents research results on yam, a species of great importance for the food security of the Colombian north coast population. This article is related to the integral management of the crop and also, the use of growth bioregulators. Our neighboring country, Brazil, includes a crop species of great importance for food security, cassava (*Manihot esculenta*), and one of the articles shows its development process and positioning as an industrial crop. Other topics included the articles about

the presence of Potyvirus sugarcane mosaic virus (SCMV) in maize grown in Colombia in department of Norte de Santander. Finally, there is a review article that shows the current status of some devastating phytopathogens that economically affect crops of great importance in Colombia - *Xanthomonas phaseoli* pv. *manihotis* (*Xpm*), *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *cubense* (*Foc*), *Phytophthora palmivora*, and *Hemileia vastatrix*. With these contents, we hope that our readers and researchers will appropriate the knowledge and this will be a further contribution to the development of national and global horticultural production.

We remind our authors to check our website https://revistas.uptc.edu.co/index.php/ciencias_hortícolas/index, where we are permanently announcing some adjustments approved by our Editorial Committee.

Finally, the institutions that edit and finance the RCCH would like to inform the authors that, considering the economic impact that the agricultural sector is experiencing in general, they will temporarily suspend the charge of publication fee for the articles starting from August – December 2021. This suspension of charge implies that the authors, from now on, should submit their manuscripts for publication in English, which were previously reviewed and corrected by the certified translators.

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