

Editorial

Welcome to *Legumes*: A New Platform for Legume Science, Discoveries, and Innovations

Jianping Wang 

Agronomy Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32606, USA; wangjp@ufl.edu

As the Editor-in-Chief, I am very pleased to welcome authors, reviewers, readers, and members of the global legume research community to the new open-access journal, *Legumes* [1]. This journal is dedicated to disseminate high-quality fundamental and applied research on legumes, which are among the world's most important plant families and provide essential food, forage, and industrial products. Notably, most legumes form a symbiotic relationship with nitrogen-fixing bacteria to supply nitrogen nutrients for plant growth, therefore, significantly contribute to sustainable agriculture systems. Facing the increasing nutrient demand, biotic and abiotic stresses, and limitation of resources, the research on legumes is becoming increasingly important.

The journal *Legumes* aims to serve as a global platform for legume research covering studies in genetics, genomics, breeding, biotechnology, molecular biology, plant-microbe interaction or symbiosis, pathology, physiology, ecology, seed biology, food nutrients, agronomy, and other related research areas. We recognize the enduring importance of the applied field research, germplasm characterization, and traditional breeding. Meanwhile, we encourage the research advancing our knowledge on the molecular bases of complex biological processes, resistance to abiotic and biotic stresses, agronomical and economical traits by utilizing advanced technologies such as single cell and spatial transcriptomics, pan-genomics, genome editing, computation biology, artificial intelligence, precision breeding, and so on. Manuscripts in the form of original research article, review, communication, brief report, perspective, or methodological paper are all welcomed. We particularly value the novel research with vigorous experimental design, reproducible and soundly analyzed data, properly and in-depth interpreted results, and logical and concise presentation.

We commit to build *Legumes* as a reputable journal in disseminating the research findings timely and fairly to the global legume research community and broad audiences. On behalf the Editorial Board, I invite you to submit your best work to *Legumes* and to serve the journal as reviewers or editors. Together, we can advance the legume sciences and contribute to the legumes crops and agriculture systems with enhanced resilience, sustainability, and productivity.



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Reference

1. *Legumes* Home Page. Available online: <https://www.mdpi.com/journal/legumes> (accessed on 9 July 2026).

Short Biography of Author



Prof. Dr. Jianping Wang is a Professor in the Agronomy Department at the University of Florida (UF) and a faculty member of the Plant Molecular & Cellular Biology Program, the Genetics Institute, and the Plant Breeding Graduate Program at UF. She has published more than 125 refereed journal articles and 7 book chapters. Her research focuses on understanding the molecular and genetic mechanisms that regulate important agronomic traits, including disease resistance, symbiosis, abiotic stress tolerance, and yield-related characteristics in crop plants. Dr. Wang's research integrates molecular biology, genetics, genomics, epigenomics, and cellular biology and implements advanced genomics technologies, including genome editing, high-throughput sequencing, and single-cell and spatial transcriptomics, to identify and characterize genes underlying agriculturally important traits. Her research aims to generate fundamental knowledge of plant biology while developing innovative genetic tools and breeding strategies to improve crop productivity, enhance sustainability, and reduce agricultural inputs.

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