

**Editorial: Special issue:**  
**Amino acids and nutritional quality of plant products**

Humans and other monogastric animals must obtain a number of amino acids from their diet because they cannot synthesize all 20 protein amino acids. However, from the viewpoint of human and animal nutrition, a number of crop plants contain relatively low levels of a number of these essential amino acids. Compared to only cereal or legume based diet, a mixture of cereal and leguminous crop product contains relatively improved amino acid composition for human or animal diet. However, some of the amino acids may not be available at the optimum level even in this mixture. Therefore, improving amino acid composition of plant products will greatly enhance their nutritional value.

In an alternate scenario, some of the plants contain certain amino acids and/or their derivatives which have adverse effects on human and animal health. Thus decreasing or eliminating these compounds from plants will significantly improve the nutritional quality of these plant products.

This special volume contains articles covering results from research to enhance the nutritional value of different plant products in relation to amino acids and their derivatives, which should stimulate further research in this area.

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