

Editorial

Welcome to Volume 5 of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods*, the first issue with our new publishing partner Wageningen Academic Publishers. The journal continues the collaboration between ICC and MoniQA that began with Wiley Blackwell four years ago and saw *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* grow progressively in stature and popularity. The transfer to Wageningen Academic Publishers will ensure further growth and continued delivery of high-quality content in *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods*.

Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods ties in nicely with the food and feed titles that Wageningen Academic Publishers have published for many years and they bring significant experience and a special personal approach which will add much to the collaboration in re-launching the journal. Collectively we look forward to expanding the journal's reach and readership.

As Co-editors-in-chief we see the collaboration with Wageningen Academic Publishers as an exciting development in the life of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* and we are convinced that this new collaboration with Wageningen Academic Publishers will be most beneficial to the growing success of this international journal within its new publishing framework.

In the new publishing environment there will be some small changes, but the focus of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* remains much the same as it has been since it was launched. In our short existence as a scientific journal we have seen our ISI rating grow and a key objective for the publishing team is to continue to grow that rating by publishing high quality papers within the journal's defined scope. The last 12 month period has seen a significant rise in submissions to the journal which indicates a high regard amongst potential authors.

The diversity of the crops and foods encompassed by the submitted papers and their geographical spread highlights the truly international appeal of the journal and brings to the reader's attention many new topics. In this way *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* facilitates the exchange of ideas and highlights issues of global concern with respect to food safety and quality. Volume 5, Issue 1,

of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* may well be the beginning of a new publishing collaboration but some of the historical concerns over food safety and quality remain to be solved, we hope that in its new format *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* will continue to make a contribution to proving answers to those historical concerns.

Volume 5, Issue 1, is a special issue on MoniQA Validation Studies, which were conducted in the framework of the MoniQA Network of Excellence and completed in 2012. This issue of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* will focus on assuring the reliability of analytical results concerning positive quality aspects such as organic production practices and freshness indicators, but also safety related concerns such as mycotoxins, pathogenic microorganisms, certain food additives or gluten in special dietetic foods for coeliac patients. The diversity of food quality and safety aspects and the variety of foods touched upon in this issue reflect well the focus and scope of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods*. As an introduction to Wageningen Academic Publishers all papers of this issue are also available as open access.

We hope you enjoy this issue!

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