CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2022 Circular Food and Agricultural Systems Special Collection

You are invited to submit a manuscript(s) for the peer-review collection of papers on Circular Food and Agricultural Systems to be published by the Transactions of ASABE.

Food and agricultural systems (FAS) are complex systems which encompass the full range of activities from production of bioproducts through their consumption and use. They provide food, fiber, energy, feed and other products, and are intricately interwoven with the health of humans and Earth’s ecosystems. Impressive advances in FAS since 1930 have enabled producers to quadruple supplies of food and other bioproducts to meet past increases in demand at home and abroad, but the pressure to meet 60 to 70% increases in demands by 2050 is a daunting new challenge exasperated by declining land, fresh water and other natural resources and climate change.

The current systems have a history of linear functionality that relies heavily on over-use of inputs with little attempt to convert (loop back) discarded materials for reuse or conversion into useful products. Continuing to operate with such linearity is not sustainable and offers little hope of meeting expected food demands. Recent weaknesses in our FAS exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic have also demonstrated the lack of resiliency of current systems, which are likely to become even less resilient due to anticipated effects of climate change. An alternative is to transition current systems into circular economy systems that are more productive, sustainable, and resilient.

This Special Collection of peer-reviewed papers presents works that envision, redesign and/or develop pathways for transitioning current FAS systems into circular economy systems that 1) design out waste, 2) keep products and materials in use, 3) regenerate natural systems, 4) provide economic benefits, and 5) are more resilient and in harmony with Earth’s ecosystems.

Instructions for interested authors:

1) Submit your manuscript to Transactions of ASABE before 30 September 2021.
2) Submission will follow ASABE procedures (https://www.asabe.org/JournalAuthors) and should use the latest template (https://www.asabe.org/ManuscriptTemplates).
3) Indicate in the submission letter that the manuscript should be considered for the 2022 Circular FAS Special Collection. Send an e-mail to the Editor (gafox@ncsu.edu) indicating your Collection submission.
4) Papers included in the Special Collection will receive several additional benefits:
   • The first three printed pages will be free. (Full page charges will apply to the remaining pages.)
   • Public access will be free for the remainder of the year of publication plus two additional years (i.e., through 2024). Open access may be purchased by authors at a discounted rate.
   • Papers will be highlighted in an introductory article and will include an identifying logo.

Each paper will go through a full peer-review process following ASABE procedures. The 2022 Circular FAS Collection will require contributions from many reviewers. We expect each author will serve as a reviewer for other manuscripts when requested.

First decision will be by 1 Dec 2021 and final acceptance by 1 Feb 2022. Papers will be published in 2022. If you have any questions, contact me at gafox@ncsu.edu or Kati Migliaccio at klwhite@ufl.edu.

Papers that are not accepted by the final deadline will not be included in the 2022 Circular FAS Collection, although authors could choose to continue with the review process as a regular journal manuscript.

Garey Fox, Editor-In-Chief, ASABE Journals
Kati Migliaccio, Guest Editor and Coordinator of the Special Collection