

A Medium for Rapid Dissemination of Information on Basic and Applied R&D in Bioconversion of Wastes to Bioproducts

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Today, we are faced with a planet where waste generation has taken a dimension never before experienced in recorded history. These wastes, mainly generated from both renewable and nonrenewable resources, constitute a major problem to sustainability and myriad of negative environmental consequences. Fossil fuels are fast depleting, forest/forest resources are at their lowest in the history of planet earth. The negative consequences of human activities on the atmospheric greenhouse gases, global warming, inter alia are obvious. It is imperative that we find a way to reuse the limited natural resources at our disposal, find scientific and sustainable approaches to natural resource conservation (i.e. use and management), in order to ensure their perpetuity. Actions in line with this would call for effective bioconversion of wastes to bioproducts useful in medicines, food and agricultural products. Efficient and economic approaches to conversion at individual through large industrial operations are needed. Despite the advances we have made in chemical conversion, any time we search, we contin-

ue to be startled by the many degradation and conversion processes mediated by, or in, biological systems around us. In many cases, these conversions are at levels that far outstrip man-made processes involving only chemical and physical model systems.

We are in an era when plants, animals, microbes and their physiological and metabolic systems can be deployed for bioconversion to generate useful bioproducts. Interestingly, this is not new to mankind. Early farmers who used their animal droppings to improve soil fertility were essentially using the animal dropping as a bioproduct. The use of yeasts to convert sugars and starch-based materials to alcohol and improved food types are age old technologies that are in use today and probably in the foreseeable future. Medicine has equally benefited immensely from bioconversion. We would recall that certain active compounds such as steroids and compounds that are biologically active in certain isomeric forms can be achieved through microbial conversion processes. Today, metabolic pathways have become mobile tools that can be moved from

parent organisms to others that we find most appropriate for use in producing bioproducts of a particular interest. Therefore, the business of converting wastes to bioproducts involves basic and applied sciences, especially biotechnology and the economics of profitable bioconversion processes to obtain products for commerce.

The Journal of Waste Conversion, Bioproducts and Biotechnology (JWCBB) is born out of the need to create a platform for rapid dissemination of information relating to the science, technology and business of converting wastes to bio-products in a profitable and sustainable manner. JWCBB as an international peer-reviewed journal that will publish original basic and applied research papers, reviews and short communications on interdisciplinary approaches to

conversion of waste to bioproducts, such as biochemicals, bio-pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, biofortified foods, myco-products, energy carriers (biogas, bioethanol, biodiesel, bioelectricity), biofertilizers, etc.

We invite you to join us in bringing cutting edge research results and information to the world by publishing your work in JWCBB.

Bioconversion of wastes to bioproducts is needed now more than ever!

Welcome to the first issue of the Journal of Waste Conversion, Bioproducts and Biotechnology

Thank you.

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Editor-in-Chief