



Plant anatomy: history and future directions

Editorial

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Over the last few decades, *Rodriguésia* has been a relevant forum for the dissemination and discussion of research on plants (Mansano & De Toni 2015), which is why it is a suitable journal for organizing this special volume. We are proud to bring the contributions of authors from various regions of Brazil, as well as from other countries, demonstrating the importance of Plant Anatomy for scientific progress. This area is one of the oldest sciences in Botany and plays a crucial role in understanding how plants function, grow and interact with their environment (Machado & Oliveira 2024). Furthermore, it has become an important link in the various fields of research in Plant Biology, providing insightful information on the development process of existing and extinct plants, becoming fundamental for evolutionary studies.

Thus, this special volume of *Rodriguésia* brings together very diverse contributions from Plant Anatomy to different areas of Botany. We have 91 authors from 29 universities and research centers. There are 22 articles that include thematic reviews and new data for different fields of Structural Botany, such as descriptive and developmental anatomy, anatomy of vegetative or reproductive organs, secretory structures. The interface with other areas of Botany, such as ecology, physiology, and taxonomy, as well as technology applications, such as plant pathology, food science and archaeology, have not been overlooked. Thus, we hope to offer a glimpse of the strength and multiplicity of what Plant Anatomy has done and continues to do for scientific advancement in the twenty-first century.

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