Abiotic stress such as drought, heat, cold, salt, and heavy metals have a huge impact on plant development and crop productivity. Abiotic stress is the most harmful factor concerning the growth and productivity of horticultural crops worldwide and it has been becoming a major threat to food security due to the constant changes of climate and deterioration of environment caused by human activity. In addition, biotic stress factors such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, phytoplasma, nematodes and insects also affect plant growth and development and severely hamper the yield of horticultural crops. Some reports indicate biotic and abiotic stressors reduce average yields by 50% for major crop plants in different regions of the world.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Drought and water stress
- Salinity stress, UV and heat stress
- Chilling and freezing stress
- Flood and water logging
- Nutrition stress, heavy metals
- Physical and mechanical stress
- Plant response to herbicides
- Biotic stresses including diseases and insects and their interaction with abiotic stresses
- Plant tolerance to biotic stresses
- Biotic and abiotic stress management

Manuscript submission information

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