

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910869176603321
Titolo	Metals and Metalloids in Plant Signaling // edited by Tariq Aftab
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer Nature Switzerland : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2024
ISBN	9783031590245
Edizione	[1st ed. 2024.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (360 pages)
Collana	Signaling and Communication in Plants, , 1867-9056
Disciplina	581.7
Soggetti	Botany Plants Organometallic chemistry Plant Science Plant Signalling Organometallic Chemistry
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Metal and Metalloid Toxicity in Plants: An Overview of Signaling Crosstalk -- Chapter 2. Uptake and Translocation Mechanisms of Metals/Metalloids in Plants through Soil and Water -- Chapter 3. Plants Responses to Metalloid Signal: Insight into Plant Stress Signaling -- Chapter 4. Role of Boron in Plant Signaling -- Chapter 5. Copper and Cadmium Signalling in Plants under Stressed and Non-Stressed Conditions -- Chapter 6. Advances in Boron and Silicon Nutrition of Fruit Trees -- Chapter 7. Zinc-Dependant Signaling in Plants -- Chapter 8. Interaction of Selenium and Silicon with Phytohormones in Abiotic Stress Response -- Chapter 9. Iron Signaling in Oxidative Stress of Plants under Salt Stress: A Meta-Analysis -- Chapter 10. An overview of Aluminium Toxicity and Tolerance Mechanisms in Plants -- Chapter 11. Accumulation and Translocation of Arsenic: Impacts on Plant's Ecophysiology -- Chapter 12. Volatile Signaling Molecules' Interaction with Metal(loids) in Plants and Their Interplay with Redox Balance -- Chapter 13. Bioaccumulation and Tolerance Mechanisms of Fluoride in Plants -- Chapter 14. Role of Transporters in Mineral Uptake and Accumulation.
Sommario/riassunto	In many parts of the world, soil and water are slightly to moderately

contaminated with metals and metalloids such as Cd, Cu, Zn, Ni, Co, Cr, Pb, Si, B and As. This could be due to long-term use of phosphatic fertilizers, sewage sludge application, dust from smelters, industrial waste and bad watering practices in agricultural lands. Beside natural factors, human activities have contributed to the enormous increase in heavy metal and/or metalloid pollution in the environment. Metal and metalloid stress are major abiotic stress factors that limit crop production and reduce agricultural yield. The primary response of plants is the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) upon exposure to high levels of metals/metalloids. They either generate ROS directly through Haber-Weiss reactions or overproduction of ROS and occurrence of oxidative stress in plants could be the indirect consequence of metals/metalloids toxicity. The indirect mechanisms include their interaction with the antioxidant system, disrupting the electron transport chain or disturbing the metabolism of essential elements. One of the most deleterious effects induced by heavy metals exposure in plants is lipid peroxidation, which can directly cause biomembrane deterioration. The impact of metals/metalloids on plant water relations has to be distinguished from their effects on water availability in soils, on root growth, limiting water uptake, as well as other phytotoxic effects. If soils are high in soluble salts (including heavy metal salts), the osmotic potential in the soil solution might be lower than the potential of the cell sap in root. Under these circumstances, the soil solution would severely restrict the rate of water uptake by plants and lead to osmotic stress. Further, the negative influence metals/metalloids have on the growth and activities of soil microorganisms, may also indirectly affect the growth of plants. In the book "Metals and Metalloids in Plant Signaling", we elucidated the effects of metals/metalloids on signaling and communication cascades in plants. The general aim of the present book is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the current situation and development in the field and to develop a science-based theoretical foundation for the conceptualization, and practical application. The various chapters are based on the consideration of metals/metalloids in terms of their action on different regulatory and functional systems of plants (signaling, metabolism, uptake, and transport mechanisms, etc.).

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