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Prelude

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Prelude

With this issue, the American Council for Medicinally Active Plants launches a new chapter in organizational growth, the publication of a new, open access, refereed journal, the Journal of Medicinally Active Plants. This quarterly on-line journal ushers in the opportunity for researchers and others in the many professional fields associated with medicinal and aromatic plants to share their knowledge, expertise, and ideas. That opportunity begins with a promise of rapid review and publication of manuscripts to meet the requirements of the electronic society in which we live.

The need for this Journal is obvious as public and private interest in medicinal and aromatic plants expands, more research is necessary to better protect, cultivate, improve, and understand the history and power of these plant materials. Such work involves an array of professional skills for investigations that range from the study of ecosystems and traditional societies to cultivation and drug development. While the pages of this publication will be collections of written manuscripts, the efforts and perspectives of the authors are sure to bring a multitude of views that stimulate the development of new insights for advancing the science, conservation, and use of medicinal and aromatic plants.

We expect this journal to be a forum that encourages the interchange and sharing of observations, philosophies, and experimental results. For these reasons, this will be your journal, supported by an organization with a primary interest in medicinal and aromatic plants. Together with fellow explorers of knowledge, the American Council for Medicinally Active Plants promotes the pursuit for facts, supportive evidence, and written documentation that can withstand critical review. In support of that effort, the Editorial Board of this Journal is dedicated to the development of a prestigious, refereed, scientific journal that meets and exceeds expectations of contributors and readers.

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