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About the Cover

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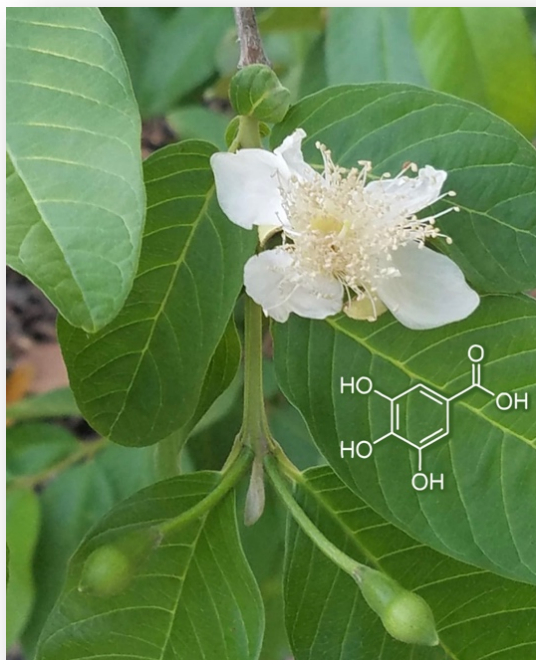
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About the Cover



Guava (*Psidium guajava*) is a small tree native to South and Central America that belongs to the family Myrtaceae. Guava is an important food crop in tropical and subtropical countries and is widely used as a traditional folk medicine throughout the world. Today, guava leaves are used as laxatives, as remedies for cold and cough, and to treat diarrhea, dysentery, wounds, vomiting, gastrointestinal problems, and diabetes. Health benefits of guava leaves have been attributed to phenolic and flavonoid compounds produced by the plant. In this issue, investigators from Borough of Manhattan Community College and the Population Council present a collaborative investigation of the biological activities of five different commercial guava leaf samples. Chemical composition of these commercial guava leaves was correlated with their potential for antioxidant, antiviral, and antibacterial activities.