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## **Editorial**

Marcin Kozak, Editor-in-Chief

Department of Botany Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW, Poland Email: nyggus@gmail.com

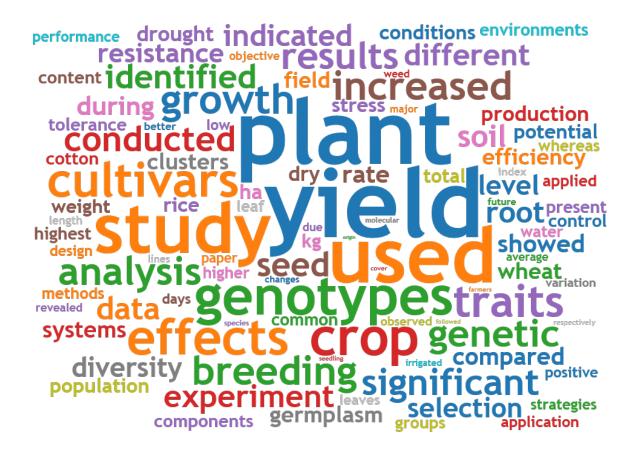
The year 2014 is a year of major changes to *Communications in Biometry and Crop Science*. First, Dr. Edzard van Santen, who led the Journal since the second issue of 2007, has left the editorial board of CBCS. I wish to say thank you and goodbye to Dr. van Santen. He finished almost seven years of dedicated duty for the Journal, its editors, reviewers and authors. On behalf of the whole editorial board and the Journal's community I wish him success in his professional and private life.

The difficult job of nurturing the Journal will from now on, for the foreseeable future, rest on my shoulders. I am happy not to be alone, though. I would like to welcome a new team of Technical Editors, who are the backbone of the Journal: Dr. Jan Bocianowski, Dr. Leonardo O. Medici and Dr. Andrea Onofri. Although some of the Associate Editors have left the Journal – and I wish to thank them, too, for their contributions – the editorial board is alive: several new Associate and Statistics Editors have joined us. In addition, we now have a team of Advisory Editors, experienced and distinguished scientists, who share our vision of developing the Journal and support us in its development. With such a team of devoted and committed editors, I believe CBCS will develop in these difficult times for science publishing.

Science publishing has indeed entered difficult times. Every year, hundreds – if not thousands – of new journals are launched, millions of reviews are made, millions of manuscripts are rejected, and millions of papers are published. Plagiarism, fraud, ghost writing, guest writing and a number of other problems exist on one side; but fascinating research is flourishing on the other side. Is there a place for a small journal such as CBCS in this crazy world?

I believe there is! Had I not believed it, I would not have agreed to take over as the Editor-in-Chief for CBCS. I sincerely trust that the Journal will find a niche, which lies somewhere near the border of crop science and biometry. The Journal, I hope, will not only be read because of the science it will bring; we will also put in our efforts to make it a useful and pleasant read as well.

The Journal is eight-year old, and now, in 2014, we are starting a 9th volume. It is a good time to take a look at what has been published in CBCS. Check out at the figure below:



This tag cloud, constructed with the web page http://textisbeautiful.net/, represents the abstracts of all the articles published from the 1st till the 8th volume of CBCS; articles without abstracts were not included.

What do we see in this graph? Letting you enjoy the interpretation of the cloud, I'll be short on words. CBCS has focused on plant yield; note the terms "cultivars," "genotypes," "genetic," "breeding" – much of the crop research in CBCS has dealt with plant breeding. Much less has been concerned with agronomy. We can also see that crop science outweighs the biometry and statistics realm, though the latter is represented in the cloud too.

What will the future hold? I don't know, but I can't wait to see it unfold. Let's start our joint adventure – and challenge – with *Communications in Biometry and Crop Science*!