The importance of food perception in food choices and nutrition

Guest Editor(s)

Elsa Lamy (ecsl@uevora.pt), Institute of Mediterranean Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – ICAAM, University of Évora, Portugal;

Fernando Capela e Silva (fcs@uevora.pt), Institute of Mediterranean Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – ICAAM and Department of Biology, University of Évora, Portugal.

Aims and Scope

Food industry and health professionals, in the area of nutrition, are daily faced with the need of understanding consumer motivations and choices, in order to develop technologies and products that best fit their preferences or to modulate behaviours leading to the promotion of healthier diets. Nevertheless, food preferences and choices are influenced by a diversity of factors, which interact among each other to a final behaviour. Understanding choices passes by understanding how consumer perceives food and how the different levels of perception (sensorial, psychological, socio-economic) affects that choices. The fact of the different factors being studied by different areas of knowledge, make, sometimes, difficult a global view of the problem.

The proposed thematic issue aims to bring together authors from different fields of research, which share a common interest for the area of food perception and nutrition, putting in the same volume multidisciplinary information that together may help to have a more global view of consumer behaviour.

List of possible contributions:

- The role of hormones in taste sensitivity/taste function
- The influence of taste perception in the development of children obesity
- Saliva proteomics and metabolomics in the study of oral food perception
- The evolution of nutritional habits and its relation with health
- The importance of communication strategies for modulating the way food is perceived
- How differences in aroma release affects food acceptance and preference
- Changes in sensorial food perception through aging
- Socio-economics determinants of food choices and preferences
- The power of marketing for driving food preferences and consumption – particularities of agro-food products
- The effect of malnutrition on food behaviour and preferences through the life course
- Different levels of food security are present in people with different food preferences
- Differences between rural and urban areas in Food perception and consumption

Keywords: Sensorial, food choices, nutrition, consumer, oral food perception, hedonics, socio-economic.

Subtopics:
In the present issue, the editors aim to have papers dealing with: 1) the influence of oral food perception in food acceptance, choices and nutrition; 2) factors affecting oral sensorial perception; 3) psychological aspects of food perception; 4) how socio-economic aspects influence the way food is perceived and consumer choices; 5) food perception and food security.

**Schedule:**

- Manuscript Submission deadline: 31 May 2018
- Peer Review Due: 31 July 2016
- Revision Due: 31 August 2016
- Notification of acceptance by the Guest Editor: 30 September 2016
- Final manuscripts due: 30 November 2016