

Special Issue

Nematodes: Drivers of Agricultural Ecosystem Performance

Message from the Guest Editors

Nematodes, the most abundant animal on Earth, undoubtedly influence agroecosystems. Plant-pathogenic nematodes threaten food security in both developed and developing countries. These root-feeding nematodes negatively affect plant performance in all major crops worldwide. Whereas nematodes undeniably have a dramatic impact on yield, they can also be beneficial. Indeed, certain species are obligate parasites of insect herbivores and are used to manage agricultural pests. Both plant-parasitic and beneficial nematodes more or less intimately interact with crop plants and affect their phenology and yield. Recent progresses in molecular ecology, modeling, behavioral ecology, and plant/nematode physiology have brought to light the complexity of plant–nematode interactions. Welcoming research and review articles, this Special Issue aims to look at these interactions through a wide lens to bring light to the complexity of these ecological links and their impact on crop performances.

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