Special Issue

Vector–Pathogen Interactions Affecting Transmission of Plant Pathogens

Message from the Guest Editor

Vector-borne diseases of plants are caused by pathogens transmitted from plant to plant, primarily by insect vectors. These diseases cause massive yield losses worldwide. Most of these diseases require just one insect for successful transmission from plant to plant, making it hard to prevent their occurrence in the field and rely primarily on the use of insecticides, which are often polluting and expensive. The importance of studying the vectors of vector-borne plant pathogens rather than focusing on the plant host is becoming increasingly apparent. More research is being conducted on the effects of pathogen acquisition on the vector and how these effects translate back to the transmission of the pathogen itself to host plants. The subject areas include but are not limited to the following:

- The effects of pathogen acquisition on the gene expression/behavioural/life history aspects of the vector.
- The effect of the vector's diet or symbiont bacteria on pathogen transmission.
- Interactions between pathogen and vector molecules affecting transmission.
- The localization of pathogens within vectors and plant tissues.

Guest Editor

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