Special Issue

Biofilms in the Spotlight: A Threat That Needs to Be Controlled

Message from the Guest Editors

Nowadays, there is a silent problem related to microbiology, and particularly, to food microbiology. This is a major concern in the food industry because the presence of biofilms has significant implications for microbial food contamination and, therefore, for the transmission of foodborne diseases.

Today, L. monocytogenes is already the pathogen with the highest mortality in Europe and the United States, and one of the main causes of the pathogen contaminating a product is because of crosscontamination from surfaces. Moreover, we cannot forget the presence and interaction between pathogens and spoilage microorganisms, because of the interaction between them, which is essential in order to assure a quick and stable biofilm structure. Perhaps more time and research are needed in order to be able to include these structures as a priority in food control—meanwhile, hundreds of deaths accumulate in the statistics.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal Applied Sciences has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multidimensional network.

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