Special Issue

Entomopathogenic Microorganisms: A Viable Tool for Controlling Serious Pests

Message from the Guest Editors

Entomopathogens are microorganisms that are pathogenic to arthropods such as insects, mites, and ticks. Several species differ significantly in their biology and behavior, and hence in their ability to control the population of enemies in each environment. The proper use of entomopathogens requires a good knowledge of the biological cycle of enemies. The pathogenicity caused by the entomopathogens is not the same in all insects, and differs even at each stage of the insect. It is usually larger in the young stages of the insect, especially in the larval stage. The point of entry or growth of a pathogen varies depending on the insect and the entomopathogen. The entomopathogens (usually viruses and bacteria) enter via the oral route, while fungi can invade their host from the insect cuticle. Some entomopathogens are mass-produced in vitro (bacteria, fungi) or in vivo (viruses) and sold commercially. In this Special Issue, we welcome original research as well as review articles.

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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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