Special Issue

Ecology and Management of Invasive Vespidae

Message from the Guest Editors

In the last century, an increasing number of new Vespidae introductions were recorded worldwide, and in some cases these introductions originated invasive populations. Examples of successful invasions are represented by the case of *Vespa velutina* in Europe or the multiple worldwide introductions of Vespula germanica and Vespula vulgaris. In Spain, within the past twelve years, four non-native Vespidae species have been detected: the yellow-legged Asian hornet (Vespa velutina), the black shield hornet (Vespa bicolor), the American paper wasp (*Polistes major*) and the Oriental hornet (Vespa orientalis). When dealing with complicated challenges such as the consequences caused by not-native species of Vespidae, it is necessary to produce, assemble and interpret information and knowledge using diverse sources and in an interdisciplinary way. As part of the One Health philosophy, people and animals, as well as the environment that they share, are closely connected. To prevent Vespidae introductions or mitigate their impacts, surveillance and management practices are required.

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