Special Issue

Genetics of Disease Resistance in Wheat

Message from the Guest Editor

Wheat is one of the most important staple food crops providing most of the human population's caloric intake. Developing resistant cultivars is the most economically and environmentally feasible strategy for controlling diseases of wheat (biotic factors). Advanced genetics studies of disease resistance have been used to detect pathogen resistance genes (R-genes). Despite the large genome size, complexity and very high proportions of relatively long near-identical repeats of wheat, geneticists and breeders continuously strive to develop improved varieties by fine-tuning genetically complex yield and end-use quality parameters in maintaining stable yields. The large and redundant nature of wheat's hexaploid genome makes it a good candidate for studying R-gene evolution with respect to recent polyploidization events. To meet the demand of the world population, continuous research work on the genetics of disease resistance in wheat is important in accelerating wheat genetic gain and increasing yield and maintaining quality traits by ensuring genetic diversity.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Zaifeng Li

College of Plant Protection, Hebei Agricultural University, Baoding 071000, China

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Genes
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
genes@mdpi.com

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Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Selvarangan Ponnazhagan
Department of Pathology, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1825 University Blvd, SHEL 814, Birmingham, AL 35294-2182, USA

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