

Special Issue

Molecular Mechanisms of Insect Immune Responses

Message from the Guest Editor

Insects encompass the most diverse groups of organisms on the planet, having adapted to almost every type of ecological niche. They are attacked by a variety of pathogens throughout their life cycle, resulting in disease outbreaks. To protect themselves from these harmful invaders, insects have evolved effective immune systems. Using model insects and genetic and genomic technologies, modern research has identified various signalling pathways that are activated in response to microbial infections. However, a range of research areas require further investigation so that the mechanisms of insect immune responses may be comprehensively understood. Another challenge is presented by the need to elucidate the involvement of noncoding RNAs, in the innate immune mechanisms via bioinformatics and experimental methodologies, as these ncRNAs are thought to be important in the regulation of gene expression. Furthermore, how the factors/systems cooperate with each other to completely or partially eliminate pathogens is an area of significant interest.

Guest Editor

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