Special Issue

Ecologically Important Symbioses in Insects

Message from the Guest Editor

Insects perform critical functions in natural and managed terrestrial ecosystems that are often mediated by microorganisms. For example, microbial symbionts influence herbivore interactions with plants by synthesizing limiting nutrients, breaking down difficult-to-digest plant polymers, and detoxifying plant defenses. Symbionts also influence interactions with natural enemies by producing bioactive compounds that disable threats. Thus, 'hidden' microbial players can have large effects on insect performance with large implications for food security and natural systems challenged by climate disruption. We are pleased to invite original research papers and review articles focused on ecological symbioses. Suitable topics for this Special Issue include (but are not limited to) research on symbiont-mediated phenotypes, mechanisms underlying symbiont function, symbiont genomics, coordination of host and symbiont functions, symbiont transmission, interactions between insect immunity and symbionts, the population dynamics of ecological symbioses, and the manner in which a changing climate impacts insect–microbe interactions.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2025)

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Arthropods are a diverse and abundant group of animals that are important to a variety of research dictates. For example, hexapods act as bio-indicators of ecosystem function and pest status and serve as model systems for questions concerning physiology, embryology, genetics, and social interaction. The editorial board and staff at Insects is committed to providing contributors an open access forum to showcase objective and innovative research as well as succinct review articles. Our journal is dedicated to providing timely and thorough review of qualified submissions and we welcome you to submit a contribution.

Editor-in-Chief

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