

## Special Issue

# Insect Pathogens as Biocontrol Agents Against 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 enemy populations in all environments. The proper use of entomopathogens requires good knowledge of the biological cycle of enemies. Entomopathogens such as bacteria, fungi, nematodes, and viruses infect a variety of arthropod pests and play an important role in their management. The pathogenicity caused by entomopathogens is not the same in all insects and differs even at each insect stage, usually being larger in young specimens, especially during the larval stage. The point of entry or growth of a pathogen also varies depending on the insect and entomopathogen: 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 and review articles covering this area of study.

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### Guest Editors

Dr. Spiridon Mantzoukas  
Dr. Tariq Butt  
Prof. Dr. Panagiotis Eliopoulos

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2026)



## Insects

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*Insects*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[insects@mdpi.com](mailto:insects@mdpi.com)

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## About the Journal

### 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.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Brian T. Forschler

Department of Entomology, University of Georgia, 413 Biological Sciences Building, Athens, GA 30602-2603, USA

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#### Journal Rank:

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#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.9 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).