Topical Collection

Biology and Management of Sap-Sucking Pests

Message from the Collection Editors

Sap-sucking pests such as brown plant hoppers, whiteflies, aphids, mealybugs, etc. are herbivorous pests that suck the sap (containing vital nutrient-rich assimilates) of plants, yielding detriments in the plants and severely threatening their health. The detriments may not always be severe, however, the fact that the sucking pests can vector viral disease is becoming a serious threat to many major cash crops. Furthermore, as result of sucking nutrient-rich assimilates from the plants, large amounts of sticky feeding residues known as honeydew are produced and deposited on plants. The honeydew then supports the growth of various microbes on plant surfaces, leading to a sooty appearance of infested plants and hence promoting yield losses. This Special Issue refers to the biology of the sucking pests; the tritrophic interactions between the sucking pests, the microbes they host, and the plants they attack; the plant defense mechanisms against the sucking pests; the biology, behavior, and ecology of natural enemies against the sucking pests; and the Integrated Pest Management strategies harmonizing environmentally sound biological control agents and conventional methods.

Collection Editors

Prof. Dr. Nickolas G. Kavallieratos

Laboratory of Agricultural Zoology and Entomology, Department of Crop Science, Agricultural University of Athens, 75 Iera Odos Str., 11855 Attica, Greece

Dr. David Wari

Okayama University, Institute of Plant Science and Resources, Kurashiki, Okayama 710-0046, Japan

Dr. Kazumu Kuramitsu

University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8577, Japan

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

mdpi.com/journal/insects

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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

Prof. Dr. Brian T. Forschler
Department of Entomology, University of Georgia, 413 Biological Sciences Building, Athens, GA 30602-2603, USA

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