Special Issue

Advances in Conservation Biocontrol of Beneficial Insects

Message from the Guest Editor

Conservation biocontrol is essential in urban and argicultural landscapes to perserve beneficial insects that can suppress pest insect populations. Without beneficial insects, the reliance on conventional insecticides only increases, further reducing the ability of beneficial insects to supress pests. Cumulative and sublethal pesticide exposure can impact beneficial insects by reducing reproduction and essential behaviors. In addition, pesticide use can cause cascading effects on nontarget species. A better understanding of the ways in which sublethal exposure alters insect immune systems, physiological stress, reproduction, and behavior is important. Urban landscapes, parks, and riparian areas offer habitats that can support predators, parasitoids, butterflies, and native bees when managed with decreased cosmetic use of pesticides.

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