

Special Issue

Insect-Plant Interactions in Agricultural Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

Insect-plant interactions become key factors when the vegetable species is a food crop or an ornamental species with economic importance. Pest control against insect pests has traditionally relied on conventional synthetic insecticides. Nevertheless, in recent decades, the extensive application of these kinds of pesticides has generated serious concerns related to environmental risk and their safety for humans. Basic knowledge about the interaction and the communication processes between insects (i.e., both pests and beneficial ones) and host plants can be used in integrated pest management (IPM) programs, developing ecofriendly alternative control strategies to limit the impact of insect pests on crop production, in addition to reducing the use of conventional insecticides. Furthermore, research concerning (tri)trophic interactions can shed light on direct and indirect plant defense mechanisms, as well as on resistance to pest attack. This Special Issue welcomes high-quality contributions, both original research papers and reviews, covering all aspects of insect-plant interactions and their applications to improve IPM programs.

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Editor-in-Chief

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