



Emerging Research Organisms to Study Development

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

The past decade has seen a progressive reduction in the cost of genome sequencing that has fortuitously coincided with tremendous breakthroughs in genome editing. As a result, researchers no longer have to choose model organisms based on convenience and available infrastructure. We can now choose model organisms best suited to answer specific biological questions without compromising the ability to perform mechanistic studies. Therefore, the repertoire of novel systems is ever-expanding and provides unprecedented access to biological processes such as regeneration, body plan formation, aging, stress response, and evolution. This Special Issue of the *Journal of Developmental Biology* will highlight emerging model organisms that are breaking new ground in the study of development and disease. These species may include multicellular animals and fungi, as well as unicellular microorganisms such as bacteria, archaea, and protists. Contributions can be research articles, reviews, and communications papers. Manuscripts reporting truly new model organisms that may not be familiar to most developmental biologists, and whose genomes have yet to be sequenced, are particularly encouraged.

