

## Special Issue

# The Dark Side of Ascomycetes

### Message from the Guest Editor

We are pleased to announce a Special Issue focused on **pathogenic ascomycetes**, lineages that cause devastating diseases in plants, animals, and humans, posing threats to food security, ecosystems, and public health. This Special Issue aims to explore the biology, evolution, and impact of pathogenic ascomycetes from both basic and applied perspectives. We welcome submissions that provide new insights into their diversity, host associations, infection strategies, and control measures. We invite **original research articles, reviews, and perspectives** on topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- Taxonomy, phylogeny, and systematics of pathogenic ascomycetes.
- Comparative and functional genomics.
- Evolutionary dynamics and the emergence of pathogenicity.
- Host–pathogen interactions and co-evolution.
- Mechanisms of infection and virulence.
- Invasive and emerging fungal pathogens.
- Ecology, distribution, and disease epidemiology.
- Diagnostic tools and control strategies.

We look forward to your contributions that will deepen our understanding of the “**dark side**” of ascomycete fungi and their global impact.

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### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Sajeewa Maharachchikumbura  
School of Life Science and Technology, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, Chengdu 611731, China

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026



## Journal of Fungi

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## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The *Journal of Fungi* (JoF, ISSN 2309-608X) is an international, peer-reviewed, scientific, open access journal that provides an advanced forum for studies related to pathogenic fungi, fungal biology, and all other aspects of fungal research. Research articles, reviews and other contents are released on the Internet immediately after acceptance. The scientific community and the general public have unlimited free access to the content as soon as it is published. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David S. Perlin  
Hackensack Meridian Health Center for Discovery and Innovation, 340  
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