Special Issue

Plant-Pathogenic Fungi

Message from the Guest Editors

Fungi are one of the most ecologically successful groups of organisms due to their ability to colonize any environment. Some phytopathogenic fungi feed on a broad range of host plants, exploiting generalist traits often combined with strong competition strategies. Other fungi develop specialized mechanisms of plant infection and colonization that involve host-specific virulence factors. Environmental challenges shape fungal genomes, and their plasticity results in the evolution of novel traits for niche adaptation and plant disease establishment. Comparative genomics and genetic engineering expand the limits of basic research towards in-field approaches based on the development of more efficient tools for pathogen detection and disease management. In this Special Issue of *Microorganisms*, the topics will include, but are not limited to:

- Fungal effectors;
- Secondary metabolites involved in plant colonization and fungal pathogenesis;
- Genomics and evolution of plant-pathogenic fungi;
- Novel patho-systems;
- Innovative tools for the early detection and management of fungal diseases on plants.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2023)

Microorganisms

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.2
CiteScore 7.7
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/135816

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

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