Special Issue

Microbial Symbiosis in Corals: A Mechanistic Approach

Message from the Guest Editor

Corals are phylogenetically basal organisms that harbor numerous symbionts ranging from fish to viruses. The relationships between these coral animals and their partners may be complex. Many of the relationships provide coral animals with sources of nutrition, oxygen, and protection from disease while the animals themselves provide their partners with nutrition and protection from the elements. When there is an imbalance between the animal host and its symbionts, there is a breakdown of one or more of these associations, resulting in physiological disruptions, at times leading to disease and even death. In recent years, these relationships are beginning to be clarified mechanistically, leading to a greater understanding of how microorganisms may affect the holobiont as well as coral reef function and health. This Special Issue will focus on the following:

- The roles of microorganisms in coral health and disease
- The mechanism by which microorganisms affect coral physiology
- Novel model systems for studying the relationship between microorganisms and coral animals
- Advances in technologies for assessing the roles of microorganisms in holobiont functioning

Guest Editor

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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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