

Special Issue

Advances in Microsporidiology

Message from the Guest Editor

Microsporidia are obligate intracellular parasites which are being increasingly recognized as 21st century parasites due to their immense yet underestimated diversity, ubiquitous distribution as animal pathogens, and intimate interactions with host cells. They represent a unique model of a minimal eukaryotic cell with reduced functions and contracted genome, as well as an evolutionary conundrum and a taxonomic stumbling block for generations of biologists. As pathogens of harmful arthropods, be that agricultural and forest pests or disease vectors, Microsporidia are drawing attention as biocontrol agents, but should be treated with care considering their dangerous ability to switch between invertebrate and vertebrate hosts. As agents of microsporidiosis in beneficial arthropods, fishes, mammals and humans, Microsporidia require thoughtful examination from the standpoint of diagnostics, prophylaxis and treatment. **Keywords:** Microsporidia; microsporidiosis; biodiversity; taxonomy; molecular phylogeny; life cycle; host range; microbial pest control; diagnostics; metabarcoding; disease prevention and treatment

Guest Editor

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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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