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Fusarium

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Fusarium species are among the most important phytopathogenic and toxigenic fungi. The most economically-important member of Fusarium is F. oxysporum, which has a world-wide distribution and is common in a wide range of soils. F. oxysporum is extremely genetically variable, making identification by morphology difficult. Several Fusarium species are involved in Fusarium head blight (FHB), which reduces both crop yield and the quality of cereals. The most important mycotoxins produced by them in northern and cooler areas are trichothecenes, zearalenone , moniliformin and enniatins , including beauvericin.

Fumonisins are considered among the important mycotoxins groups which are associated with human esophageal cancer and livestock diseases. These mycotoxins are mainly produced by F. verticillioides, which is more common in the tropical and subtropical regions and humid temperate regions Morphological description has been the basis for Fusarium taxonomy and identification of Fusarium species. There have been a lot of problems in species identification. Hence, biochemical, biological, molecular and phylogenetic methods have been applied to Fusarium to solve these problems.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The worldwide impact of infectious disease is incalculable. The consequences for human health in terms of morbidity and mortality are obvious and vast but, when infections of animals and plants are also taken into account, it is hard to imagine any other disease that has such a significant impact on our lives—on healthcare systems, on agriculture and on world economics. *Pathogens* is proud to continue to serve the international community by publishing high quality studies that further our understanding of infection and have meaningful consequences for disease intervention.

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