Special Issue

Soil Borne Pathogens

Message from the Guest Editor

Soil-borne pathogens (SBPs) are microorganisms that live and thrive in soil and which possess the capacity to cause diseases in plants, animals, and humans. These pathogens have a major impact on agricultural productivity and food security as they can lead to significant crop losses and reduced yields. SBPs can be classified into several categories based on their properties and modes of infection, including bacteria, fungi, and nematodes. Their effects are highly pronounced under the harsh conditions of a climate in flux, especially drought conditions, as they add pressure on a disturbed root system to absorb enough water. Bacterial soil-borne pathogens, such as *Ralstonia solanacearum*, can cause wilt disease in many crops, while fungal pathogens, such as *Fusarium* spp. and *Pythium* spp., can cause root and stem rots, damping off, and other diseases. Plant parasitic nematodes (PPNs) (e.g., *Meloidogyne*, *Heterodera*, and *Pratylenchus* spp.) are dangerous microorganisms that can feed on plant roots, leading to reduced plant vigor and yield.

Guest Editor

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About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

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