Special Issue

Genetic Variability, Diagnosis and Control of Plant Viruses and Viroids

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent years, numerous plant viruses, both old and new, have emerged, causing epidemics in economically important crops, influence by new trends in the global market and climate change. In addition, these phenomena are highly favoured by the presence of the vigorous genetic variability and evolution of pathogens. RNA viruses have a great potential for genetic variation, rapid evolution, and adaptation as a consequence of high mutation rates, large population sizes, recombination events, and very short generation times. The characterization of the genetic variability and structure of viral populations provides relevant information on the processes involved in virus evolution and epidemiology. Understanding the role of genetic diversity in controlling the patterns and impact of pathogen emergence in nature has the potential to provide new insights for crop management. This Special Issue of Plants will focus on studies that address the variability of plant viruses, their molecular evolution, and factors that promote the emergence of new viruses and variants.

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Plants is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to plant function, its physiology, biology, taxonomy, stresses, and its interactions with other organisms. It publishes original research articles, reviews, reports, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. In original research papers, it is important that full experimental details are provided. We also encourage timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the plant research community.

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