

Special Issue

Pathogenic Dothideomycete-Plant Interactions

Message from the Guest Editors

The fungal class Dothideomycetes is a large group containing over 1,300 genera and 19,000 species, many of which are necrotrophic or hemibiotrophic plant pathogens. Among these are economically devastating pathogens such as *Pseudocercospora fijiensis*, *Bipolaris maydis*, and *Zymoseptoria tritici*, which cause black Sigatoka disease of banana, southern corn leaf blight, and Septoria leaf blotch of wheat, respectively. Due to their economic importance, plant interactions with fungi from this class are of special interest, and we are only beginning to understand the molecular basis by which this class has been so successful at overcoming plant defense responses. Some of these mechanisms include the production of effector proteins, secondary metabolites, and plant cell wall-degrading enzymes, as well as factors that may speed fungal adaptation, such as accessory chromosomes and proximity of pathogenicity genes to transposable elements. This Special Issue of *Plants* will feature the molecular basis of plant interactions with pathogens from the class Dothideomycetes.

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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, and 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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