

Special Issue

Phytotoxins and Mycotoxins: Two Different Sides of the Same Coin - the Memory of Prof. Antonio Bottalico

Message from the Guest Editors

Fungi can produce a wide array of secondary metabolites. Many of them can express their toxicity as phytotoxins in plants. Other metabolites have no known harmful activity toward plants but can be dangerous as mycotoxins if they are consumed by humans or animals. In response to these metabolites, some plants produce enzymes that modify the metabolite's structure. These "masked" or "modified" mycotoxins, are less toxic to plants. When they are ingested by humans or animals, the modifications can be reversed, and the toxins become bioavailable within the intestinal tract and a renewed health concern. The Special Issue, dedicated to the memory of Prof. Antonio Bottalico, solicits scientific contributions on both phytotoxins and mycotoxins to reflect the main pillars of the scientific activity of this pioneering researcher on toxigenic fungi. A second objective of this Special Issue is to highlight that phytotoxins and mycotoxins are two different sides of the same coin and to demonstrate the great abilities of toxigenic fungi to use secondary metabolites to colonize environmental substrates and to preserve themselves.

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Toxinology is an incredibly diverse area of study, ranging from field surveys of environmental toxins to the study of toxin action at the molecular level. The editorial board and staff of *Toxins* are dedicated to providing a timely, peer-reviewed outlet for exciting, innovative primary research articles and concise, informative reviews from investigators in the myriad of disciplines contributing to our knowledge on toxins. We are committed to meeting the needs of the toxin research community by offering useful and timely reviews of all manuscripts submitted. Please consider *Toxins* when submitting your work for publication.

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