



insects



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Insect–Pathogen Interactions in Mass-Reared Insects

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Monique M. van Oers

Laboratory of Virology,
Department of Plant Sciences,
Wageningen University,
Wageningen, The Netherlands

Dr. Annette Bruun Jensen

Department of Plant and
Environmental Sciences,
University of Copenhagen,
Frederiksberg, Denmark

Dr. Christina Nielsen-LeRoux

Micalis Institute, INRAE,
AgroParisTech, Université Paris-
Saclay, 78350 Jouy-en-Josas,
France

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Insects are mass reared for integrated pest management and insect vector control. Further valuable applications include pollination services, silk production and waste management. Successful application of mass-reared insects heavily relies on culturing large, healthy insect colonies. The insects are generally grown under high-density monoculture conditions in artificial environments. In such “insect factories”, the emergence of insect pathogens can be easily triggered, leading to extensive economic losses. This Special Issue aims to publish newly gained knowledge on the nature and biology of insect pathogens that threaten mass-reared insect colonies. We encourage the submission of papers that aim to better understand the underlying mechanisms of pathogen–host interactions. How these mechanisms lead to disease outbreaks and what (a)biotic factors can trigger or, on the contrary, how they can reduce the risk of such outbreaks is clearly within the focus of this Special Issue. The published data will (ultimately) contribute to more resilient insect farming.



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Special Issue