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Evolutionary Consequences of Hybridisation in Eukaryotes

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear colleagues,

Hybridisation, defined as breeding between representatives of distinct taxonomic units, has played a profound role in evolution. This role has been underappreciated until recent genomic studies showed that a broad range of eukaryotic species have experienced hybridisation events. Unless hybrids are sterile or unable to survive until reproductive age, hybridisation can lead to introgression. Introgressive hybridisation may have a broad range of outcomes, including (1) extinction via genetic swamping, outbreeding depression, or accumulation of deleterious variation; (2) evolutionary rescue via rapid acquisition of new adaptive variation, which enables recovery from environmental pressure, preventing extinction; (3) formation of hybrid zones or new hybrid species.

This Special Issue will present novel research on the evolutionary consequences of hybridisation in eukaryotic organisms. We aim to focus on the factors affecting the fitness of F1 hybrids and backcrosses, the viability of admixed populations, the admixture proportions after hybridisation events, as well as interactions between adaptive and neutral introgression, and other related topics.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

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