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Molecular Genetics of Finfish and Shellfish Microbiota

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Message from the Guest Editors

Molecular genetic technologies for studying host-microorganism interactions have provided a wealth of information about the roles of microorganisms in animal physiology and development. The microbiomes of the finfish and shellfish have only recently been the focus of these studies, they are an important group for understanding host-microbiota interactions from ecological, evolutionary and genetic perspectives.

Understanding the relationships between finfish and shellfish hosts and their resident microbial communities as well as the interactions within the microbial community provides insight into important biological characteristics ranging from development to systems biology. Their microbiomes are shaped by the hosts' environments and the microenvironments provided by the hosts, e.g., the gastrointestinal tract and gills. In addition, colonization by members possessing new genetic characteristics can alter the community structure to either the benefit or detriment of the host. This Special Issue will focus on the molecular genetic factors that shape the microbiomes of finfish and shellfish and how those factors affect the host.













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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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