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Citrus Rhizosphere Microbiome

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Message from the Guest Editor

Huge progress has been made in the citrus research area, by using physiological, biochemical, genetic, and high-throughput "omics" technologies. Recently, scientists have come to realize that, besides the intrinsic genetic factors, surrounding factors, especially the rhizosphere microbiome (a microbe community), could also profoundly affect plant growth, development, and even fruit quality formation. Thus, the microbiome is called "the second genome of an organism" regarding its important role in shaping phenotypes. In citrus, the role of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi has been largely investigated, and attempted developments of fungi fertilizers have also been performed, though the unculturable character of mycorrhizal fungi makes the application difficult. Therefore, it is urgent and necessary to explore more beneficial microbes and study the activating mechanism, which should facilitate the research and application towards sustainable cultivation technologies in the citrus industry.

The SI aims to recent advances in the identification and characterization of the role of citrus rhizosphere microbes in citrus growth, development, fruit quality formation.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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