



Pathogenic Mechanism and Control of Rice Blast Fungus

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Jun Yang

Prof. Dr. Xiaolin Chen

Prof. Dr. Haifeng Zhang

Prof. Dr. Min He

Prof. Dr. Junjie Xing

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Message from the Guest Editors

Rice blast, one of the most devastating diseases of rice worldwide, causes 10% to 30% loss of the yield of this staple crop and is an ongoing threat to global food security. Rice blast fungus (anamorph: *Pyricularia oryzae*, teleomorph: *Magnaporthe oryzae*) is a heterothallic ascomycete that forms a specialized infection structure called appressorium for penetrating rice cells. Rice blast fungus can also infect and cause severe diseases in several other crops, including wheat, barley, and millet.

The purpose of this Special Issue is to encourage scientists in the rice blast community to publish their original and high-quality research articles as well as reviews for addressing recent advances on the pathogenic mechanism and control of rice blast fungus. Potential topics include, but are not limited to, fungal pathogenesis, fungus–plant interaction, fungal population biology, fungal molecular epidemiology, fungal avirulence gene variation, strategies for the deployment of resistance genes, green fungicide development, fungicide-resistance mechanisms, and biological control.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David S. Perlin
Hackensack Meridian Health
Center for Discovery and
Innovation, 111 Ideation Way,
Nutley, NJ 07110, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Journal of Fungi Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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