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The Plant RNA Viruses

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Message from the Guest Editors

Most viruses infecting plants are RNA viruses which are highly infectious and responsible for a vast variety of plant diseases. The replication, evolution, and interaction of plant RNA viruses with plant hosts have been intensively studied. Not only limited to their biology, the interest in RNA plant viruses also extends to their applications in research and their potentials in technology. Many RNA viruses, such as tobacco mosaic virus and tomato bushy stunt virus, have been widely used as models to study the interaction between plants and viruses. Various molecular applications, e.g., virus-induced gene silencing and overexpression of foreign genes in plants, were derived from RNA viruses. In this Special Issue, we would like to discuss recent advances in plant RNA viruses as well as applications of RNA viruses as novel tools for research and technology.

This Special Issue will present but not be limited to the studies of biology of plant RNA viruses, interaction between RNA viruses and plants, crop protection strategies against RNA viruses, current technology in molecular detections, and development of molecular tools from infectious clones of RNA viruses.



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The worldwide impact of infectious disease is incalculable. The consequences for human health in terms of morbidity and mortality are obvious and vast but, when infections of animals and plants are also taken into account, it is hard to imagine any other disease that has such a significant impact on our lives—on healthcare systems, on agriculture and on world economics. *Pathogens* is proud to continue to serve the international community by publishing high quality studies that further our understanding of infection and have meaningful consequences for disease intervention.

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