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Biology and Pathology of *Phytophthora infestans*

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (31 October 2020)

Message from the Guest Editor

Phytophthora infestans, the cause of late blight, is perhaps potentially the most devasting plant pathogen known to mankind, still threatening potato, a major food crop despite over a century of plant breeding and the development of new unique antimicrobial chemicals. The molecular evolution, population biology and development of new pathogenic strains has been studied exposing the genomic diversity and complexity of this microbe. The discovery of sources of resistance in wild potato relatives has presented possibilities for the breeding of new resistant crop varieties only leading to rapid breakdown of disease control. New chemistry has offered high levels of control only to be defeated by the emergence of new insensitive microbial strains. Disease forecasting has offered some respite but again the emergence of new highly virulent strains has complicated this management strategy.

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Editor-in-Chief

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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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