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Interactions between Herbivorous Insects and Their Host Plants

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Message from the Guest Editor

Many thousands of insect species obtain their nutrition from plants, primarily by feeding directly on root or foliage tissue or by extracting xylem or phloem sap. Some insects utilize a wide range of host plant species, whereas others are highly host-specific. Plant–insect interactions are now studied using a range of scientific approaches. Genomic and proteomic methods are now used extensively to assess how plants have evolved to defend themselves against insect herbivores, and how insects have evolved to overcome these defences.

From an applied viewpoint, these interactions are often of considerable economic importance. Additionally, conservation of endangered insects requires consideration of host plant selection by females and the subsequent performance of larvae to indicate the suitability of these hosts. Herbivorous insects are increasingly being considered as beneficial species in terms of their potential value as biocontrol agents of noxious weeds and invasive exotic plants.

This Special Issue aims to present a collection of high-quality scientific papers that provide significant new information in the applied and fundamental study of plants and insects.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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