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Characterization and Action Mechanism of Phytotoxins

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Message from the Guest Editor

Phytotoxins are microbial secondary metabolites that play an important role in the development of plant disease symptoms. The purification and characterization of these toxic metabolites today have become much simpler and more efficient with respect to the development of new chromatographic and spectroscopic methods. Very important is the determination of their absolute configuration strictly close the biological activity. Thus, pure metabolites could have an important practical application in agriculture, such as biopesticides. Phytotoxins could also be an important tool to develope specific and sensitive diagnostic methods for plant disease and can be used to obtain crop varieties. Some could also have application in medicine with respect to combating severe human diseases such as malaria, yellow and dengue fevers and cancer. Phytotoxins could be used to carry out structure-activity relationship studies to modulate their activity and specificity and to prepare probed derivatives suitable for study on their mode of action.

Thus, this Special Issue of Toxins will report articles with respect to phytotoxin characterization and the results of studies on their mode of action.













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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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