



viruses



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Insect Viruses and Pest Management

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Increasing public concern about the environmental consequences of the massive use of chemical pesticides and the development of resistances to these products by insects have increased scientists' interest in finding alternatives for controlling insect pests. Insects are major pests, not only to agricultural crops but also to domestic animals and humans. Viruses offer alternatives for safe and environmentally friendly insect pest control, using various strategies. Baculoviruses have been used as biological control agents with success against various insect pests. Viruses belonging to other families have been proposed for use and are under evaluation for safety, specificity, and efficacy on the control of their insect hosts. *Viruses* has published a Special Issue on this topic (2014). Since then, our knowledge on viruses infecting insects, and their potential to control pests, has greatly improved, and new questions have emerged. This Issue presents the state-of-the-art on the actual use of viruses in pest control and the new approaches under development.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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