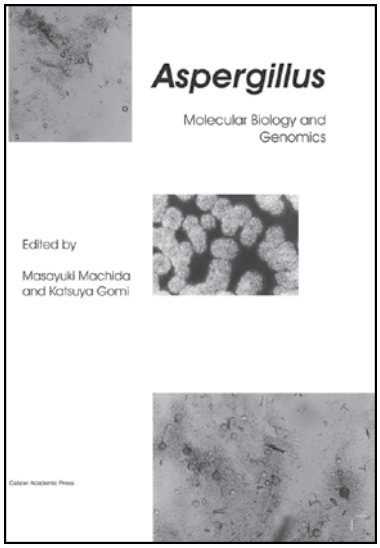
Aspergillus
Molecular Biology and Genomics



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The aspergilli are a fascinating group of fungi exhibiting immense ecological and metabolic diversity. These include notorious pathogens such as *Aspergillus flavus*, which produces aflatoxin, one of the most potent, naturally occurring, compounds known to man. Conversely, also included are other fungi, such as *A. oryzae*, involved in the industrial production of soy sauce and sake or *A. niger* used for the production of citric acid and enzymes such as glucose oxidase and lysozyme. Such is the interest in *Aspergillus* that, to date, the sequences of fifteen different *Aspergillus* genomes have been determined. These data have provided scientists with an exciting resource to improve the understanding of *Aspergillus* molecular genomics and fuel efforts to identify new metabolites and novel genes of industrial or medical importance.

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