

Fusarium

Genomics, Molecular and Cellular Biology



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The fungus *Fusarium* is a major plant pathogen that causes disease in nearly every agriculturally important plant. In addition, some strains produce mycotoxins that can cause serious illness in humans and livestock. The enormous economic importance of and health hazards posed by *Fusarium* have fuelled research into its biochemistry, genetics, genomics, proteomics and metabolomics by scientists worldwide. The primary aim of this research is the identification of strategies to reduce crop diseases and the risks posed to human and animal health. The wealth of information derived from this research has allowed *Fusarium* to serve as a model system for eukaryotic biology, permitting tremendous advances in our understanding of the genetic and biochemical processes involved in the fungus-plant interaction, fungal pathogenesis, toxin biosynthesis, genome plasticity and adaptive evolution to ecological niches.

In this book, an international group of researchers critically reviews the most important current research on the genomics and molecular and cellular biology of *Fusarium*. The opening chapter provides a fascinating introduction to the organism. Subsequent chapters deal with: sex and fruiting; genome structural dynamics; molecular genetics and genomic approaches to study pathogenesis in wheat; proteomic analysis of the fungus-host interaction; Repeat-induced point mutation, DNA methylation and heterochromatin in *Fusarium graminearum* (*Gibberella zeae*); nitrogen regulation network and its impact on secondary metabolism and pathogenicity; diversity of polyketide synthases; and plant responses to *Fusarium* metabolites. This volume is essential for everyone working with *Fusarium* and other filamentous fungi. A recommended book for all biology, agriculture and medical libraries.

Chapter 1. An Overview of *Fusarium*. *John F. Leslie and Brett A. Summerell*

Chapter 2. Sex and Fruiting in *Fusarium*. *Francis Trail*

Chapter 3. Structural Dynamics of *Fusarium* Genomes. *H. Corby Kistler, Martijn Rep and Li-Jun Ma*

Chapter 4. Molecular Genetics and Genomic Approaches to Explore *Fusarium* Infection on Wheat Floral Tissue. *Martin Urban and Kim E. Hammond-Kosack*

Chapter 5. Applying Proteomics to Investigate the Interactions Between Pathogenic *Fusarium* Species and Their Hosts. *Linda J. Harris, Thérèse Ouellet and Rajagopal Subramaniam*

Chapter 6. Repeat-induced Point Mutation, DNA Methylation and Heterochromatin in *Gibberella zeae* (anamorph: *Fusarium graminearum*). *Kyle R. Pomraning, Lanelle R. Connolly, Joseph P. Whalen, Kristina M. Smith and Michael Freitag*

Chapter 7. The Nitrogen Regulation Network and its Impact on Secondary Metabolism and Pathogenicity. *Philipp Wiemann and Bettina Tudzynski*

Chapter 8. Diversity of Polyketide Synthases in *Fusarium*. *Daren W. Brown and Robert H. Proctor*

Chapter 9. Plant Responses to *Fusarium* Metabolites. *Takumi Nishiuchi*

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