

# Special Issue

## Epigenetics in Insects

### Message from the Guest Editors

In the 1950s, Conrad Waddington was put on the trail of epigenetics by the observation that thoracic appendages in fruit flies could be modified by changing developmental temperature or treating embryos with ether. It is therefore only natural to devote a Special Issue to Epigenetics in *Insects*. Epigenetics has been more recently defined as the study of mitotically and/or meiotically heritable changes in gene function that cannot be explained by changes in DNA sequence (Riggs et al., 1996). Many epigenetic mechanisms have been discovered and studied in detail in the fruitfly *Drosophila melanogaster*, in which they play crucial roles in the structural organization of chromosomes, in gene regulation during development, and in the control of transposable elements. However, epigenetics is also a very active field of research in other insect species. Indeed, phenotype plasticity in response to environmental changes is very usual in insects and frequently involves epigenetic mechanisms. This Special Issue will report recent discoveries illustrating the major role of epigenetics in a range of insects.

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### Guest Editors

Dr. Frédérique Peronnet

Institute of Biology Paris Seine (IBPS), Sorbonne Université CNRS,  
75005 Paris, France

Dr. Jean-Michel Gibert

Institute of Biology Paris Seine (IBPS), Sorbonne Université-CNRS,  
75005 Paris, France

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 April 2021)



## Insects

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*Insects*  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[insects@mdpi.com](mailto:insects@mdpi.com)

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### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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#### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Brian T. Forschler  
Department of Entomology, University of Georgia, 413 Biological  
Sciences Building, Athens, GA 30602-2603, USA

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