

Special Issue

Metabolomics in Chemical Ecology

Message from the Guest Editors

Many organisms use chemical cues to navigate their environment, find mates or food, regulate populations, or defend themselves, to name a few examples. Some such interactions have wide-reaching effects, with the ability to alter community structure, and are thus important to investigate and understand fully. While ecological observations of these interactions have been made for centuries, the analytical tools to investigate and identify the causative compounds have been limited by the advancement of chemical methodologies. Modern advances in techniques such as mass spectrometry (MS), nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR), and theoretical calculations/modeling have enhanced our ability to isolate and identify compounds of interest. These techniques, MS and NMR spectroscopy, have more recently been combined with multivariate statistics to probe the set of biogenic compounds we call the metabolome. These metabolomics investigations have led to many recent findings that have helped to shape our current understanding of how organisms communicate through chemistry, or chemical ecology.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Nicole van Dam

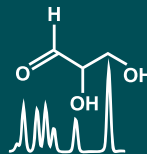
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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The metabolome is the result of the combined effects of genetic and environmental influences on metabolic processes. Metabolomic studies can provide a global view of metabolism and thereby improve our understanding of the underlying biology. Advances in metabolomic technologies have shown utility for elucidating mechanisms which underlie fundamental biological processes including disease pathology. *Metabolites* is proud to be part of the development of metabolomics and we look forward to working with many of you to publish high quality metabolomic studies.

Editor-in-Chief

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