

Genetics of immune defense against fungal infection

Research Brief

Understanding the relationships between immune systems, longevity, and diet can give insight into the evolution of immune defense, and can inform the development of less destructive and more effective treatment of infection. Moreover, the fungal pathogen used in this study, *Beauveria bassiana*, has uses in biological control of insect pests that threaten food security, bed bugs, and mosquito vectors of human diseases including malaria and dengue fever. Understanding how insects become infected with *B. bassiana* will inform the use of fungi in agriculture and epidemiology.