

Breeding for Disease Resistance

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Abstract:

Among the most important characters to consider in crop breeding programmes, is resistance to pathogens and pests. There is strong consensus, that growing genetically resistant cultivars is the most appropriate and cost effective means of managing pests and diseases, and is one of the key components of crop improvement. The drawbacks of resistance are few. One of the important concerns of resistance breeders is the specificity and durability of the resistance incorporated in their cultivars. Strategies for identification and utilisation of durable sources of resistance will be critically discussed, with special focus on cereal and legume crops.

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