

A SHORT HISTORY OF TREE RESISTANCE SELECTION AND BREEDING THROUGH THE JOURNAL *FOREST PATHOLOGY*

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Forest Pathology was first published in 1971, then under the title *European Journal of Forest Pathology*. The first editor-in-chief, Peter Schütt, assembled a board of like-minded individuals based in several European countries to present the progress of research on tree and forest health, initially focused on Europe itself. Within a short time, however, the journal was recognized internationally and attracted manuscripts from all forested continents. In 2000, under the second editor-in-chief, Ottmar Holdenrieder, the inclusion of increasing quantities of global science in the journal led to a change in the name to *Forest Pathology*, which is maintained to this day.

Since the outset, the journal has published papers on the potential use of resistance to pathogens in the management and control of tree diseases. Using “resistance” as the search term on the journal home page produces 1,131 “hits” for individual papers, although the precise nature of the “resistance” referred to is obscure in some cases. Host-pathogen systems reported on vary widely, from the expected (e.g., white pine blister rust, Dutch elm disease, chestnut canker) to less

commonly known interactions (e.g., *Microcyclus* on *Hevea*; *Ralstonia* on *Casuarina*). More recently, the focus has, to some extent, shifted to potential resistance against recently detected invasive pathogens, such as ash dieback and species of *Phytophthora*, but other longer-term problems still receive plenty of attention.

Subjects for examination have also varied from the traditional aspects of selection and breeding through the physiological mechanisms contributing to resistance, to, more recently, the molecular biology of tree-pathogen interactions.

In this review, we will present an analysis of the work on tree resistance published in *Forest Pathology* since the journal’s first issue, including data on the numbers of papers published on different host-pathogen interaction. We will evaluate, as far as is possible, the overall contribution of papers in this journal to our current understanding of the potential for host resistance in contributing to the production of trees resistant to pathogens.

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