Insect-plant interactions
in a crop protection perspective

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“Man has always had his troubles with insects. When he first emerged as man he already had fleas and lice and was fed on by mosquitoes and pestered by flies... Gradually, as the more stark enemies of primeval life, such as the leopard and tiger, ceased to be a great threat to primitive man, insects became increasingly important as a challenge to his success.”

Scientists are dealing with the diversity and the complexity of nature, trying to find over the time the different pieces of the puzzle that human often perceive as wonderful, and that our knowledge of the insect world is a permanent discovery, and most likely a never-ending story. A glance in the rear-view mirror of science allows to remind several XIXth century scientists such as Louis Pasteur (1822-1895), Charles Valentine Riley (1843-1895), and Karl Von Frisch (1886-1982). These pioneers were mostly multidisciplinary scientists.

We present here a book that humbly attempts to put some light on multidisciplinarity by associating renowned scientists (many of the Montpellier community!). We have thus endeavoured to link different scientific disciplines (paleontology, evolutionary biology, chemical ecology, ethology, agronomy, animal and plant physiology, etc) in order to emphasize on current scientific approaches to tackle down crop pests, while limiting the use of pesticides.


Website:
https://www.elsevier.com/books/insect-plant-interactions-in-a-crop-protection-perspective/sauvion/978-0-12-803318-0

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