Comparative analysis of hemocyte differentiation and plasticity in *Drosophila* species

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We analyzed the larval effector hemocyte types of several *Drosophila* species, and found significant differences between the melanogaster and the ananassae subgroup. Instead of lamellocytes, encapsulation in *D. ananassae* and *D. bipectinata* larvae is achieved by a novel cell type, the multinucleated giant hemocyte. Here we summarize the analogies and differences of hematopoiesis and compartmental plasticity between *D. melanogaster* and *D. ananassae*.