Special Issue

Invasive Alien Plant Species: Encroachment Mechanisms, Impact on Soils, Environment and Ecosystem Services

Message from the Guest Editor

Biological invasions constitute important problems of human-induced alterations on a global scale. Invaders can reduce biological diversity and promote extinctions, act as a vector of diseases and generate economic losses. Crucial ecosystem processes and properties, such as primary productivity, organic matter decomposition, hydrology, geomorphology, element cycling and natural disturbance regimes, may be affected by biological invasions. The invasion rate of exotic species is expected to increase in coming decades, mainly due to the expansion of global trade, agriculture and other human activities. The most invasive species are associated with anthropogenically disturbed ecosystems, which have been estimated to constitute ca. 23% of the global ice-free land area. However, some alien species invade natural habitats and alter ecosystem structure and functions as they differ from non-invasive plant species in traits related to physiology, leaf-area allocation, shoot allocation, growth rate, size and overall fitness. More details at: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/diversity/special_issues/Invasive_Alien_Plant

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Diversity (ISSN 1424-2818) is a scholarly journal that covers all areas of diversity research. Our distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor for publishing. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access.
We invite papers and reviews on multidisciplinary topics of diversity that bridge organismic diversity (systematics, biodiversity, phylogeny, population genetics, and evolution) and molecular diversity (phytochemistry and biophysics).

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