

Special Issue

Pine Cones: Species Diversity and Ecological Processes in Natural Forests and Plantations

Message from the Guest Editor

Pine cones play a crucial role in forest ecosystems and plantations, functioning as persistent seed banks that regulate regeneration dynamics and serve as microhabitats and food resources for various organisms. Pine cones may therefore function as meta-dispersal units and potentially play a significant role in the recovery of natural environments. However, important questions remain regarding the diversity of other organisms (e.g., non-lichenized fungi and insects), as well as the relationship between cone size and tree age.

In this context, this Special Issue will focus on new research in the diversity, ecology, and chemical and physical processes associated with pine cones in natural forests and Pinus plantations. Studies addressing cones of *Abies* and *Picea* are also welcome. Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts on the following topics:

1. Diversity in pine cones (*Pinus*, *Abies*, *Picea*);
2. Colonization processes of lichens, bryophytes, and fungi on pine cones;
3. Seed dispersion processes in pine cones;
4. Seed predation by insects in pine cones;
5. Chemical compounds in pine cones;
6. Physical functions of pine cone scales.

Guest Editor

Dr. Ángel Benítez

Department of Biological and Agricultural Sciences, Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, Loja, Ecuador

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2026)



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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
diversity@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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).

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Michael Wink

Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, Heidelberg
University, Im Neuenheimer Feld 329, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

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