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The Effects of Species Invasions and Dispersal on Forest Communities

Guest Editor:

Prof. Dr. Luís González

Plant Biology & Soil Science
Department, Universidad de Vigo,
36310 Vigo (Pontevedra), Spain

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Message from the Guest Editor

Non-native plants invade forests and severely impact native biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. Exotics may modify soil fungal and bacterial communities, decrease species richness, affect soil properties and nutrient cycling, change socio-cultural and economic activities, and harm human health.

Many invasive species have exceeded the period of early detection for an effective eradication. Efficient and sustainable management is necessary to preserve biodiversity and, in the worst cases, to coexist with the exotic species. Management decisions need to distinguish between invasive species and their effects. These effects may have lasting legacies on the forest community composition and forest ecosystem function.

To contribute to this Special Issue, we encourage studies from all fields related to forest invasions, but especially those which attempt to report the ecophysiology of invasive species, soil or structural legacies, and possible controls in order to promote knowledge and improve effective control and restoration strategies. Invasive species will be considered in plants, animals, and micro-organisms and their relationships. Original works and reviews are both welcome.



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Special Issue



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Forests Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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