

## Special Issue

# Microbial Community Structure and Soil Health in Forests

### Message from the Guest Editors

Soil is a complex system, and its functions are critical to ecosystem sustainability through its support of relevant ecosystem services (e.g., carbon sequestration, climate regulation, food production, habitat for organisms, soil and water quality and quantity). Soil health is a relatively new concept (emerged in the early 2000s) and is defined as the soil conditions predicting its functioning as a vital ecosystem. It is a broader concept than soil quality and emphasizes the overall living components of the soil. This framework highlights the biological perspective of sustainable soil management for high plant production in forest ecosystems and simultaneously promotes a soil microbiome requiring management of microbial abundance and activity, community composition, and specific functions. Potential topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Soil biological quality indicators in forest soils;
- Soil microbiome and its recruitment by plants;
- Soil microbial contributions to soil and plant health;
- Soil health indexes and forest soils;
- Agroforestry systems and soil health;
- One health and forest soils.

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### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2026)



## Forests

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### Editor-in-Chief

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