

Special Issue

The Role of Soil Fauna and Microbial Communities in Forests

Message from the Guest Editor

Soil fauna and microbial communities play a crucial role in decomposition and nutrient cycling, as well as in maintaining soil structure. They are, therefore, essential for healthy, sustainable forest ecosystems. This Special Issue invites articles that explore the diverse roles of soil microorganisms and fauna in promoting sustainable forest soil management and ecosystem services. Information about less-studied microbial and faunal groups that play an important role in forest soils, from boreal to tropical regions, is particularly anticipated. Articles exploring the relationship between the biological characteristics of these groups and their functions in so-called 'old forests' are especially welcome.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Changes in the abundance and diversity of soil biota;
- Role of microorganisms in soil carbon storage;
- Molecular diversity and functions of soil biota;
- Interactions between soil organisms and plants;
- Adaptation of the soil microbiome to a changing world.

Guest Editor

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Forests (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and cross-disciplinary, scholarly forestry journal. The distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor and review of all published articles. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access. Our goal is to have *Forests* be recognized as one of the foremost publication outlets for high quality, leading edge research in this broad and diverse field. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global forestry community.

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 16.8 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).