

Special Issue

Tree and Shrub Bark: Management, Sustainable Production, and Opportunities in the Forest Bioeconomy

Message from the Guest Editors

Tree and shrub bark is a diverse and valuable resource with growing importance in the forest-based bioeconomy; This topic invites original research and reviews focused on the management, sustainable production, transformation, and innovation of bark from a wide range of forest species. Well-known examples include cork from *Quercus suber*, valued for insulation, packaging, and design; cinnamon bark (*Cinnamomum* spp.), used in food and cosmetics; willow bark (*Salix* spp.), rich in salicylates; and barks rich in tannins, such as Acacia or Quillaja, used in industrial processes. Other notable examples are Quassia bark (*Quassia amara*), known for its bitter compounds with insecticidal and medicinal applications, and Lapacho bark (*Handroanthus* spp.), traditionally used in herbal remedies. We welcome contributions on bark harvesting and forest management, processing technologies and value chains, industrial applications and innovation, socioeconomic and ecological dimensions, and bark's integration into circular and regional bioeconomies. This Special Issue aims to highlight bark as a strategic non-wood forest product, fostering its sustainable use and innovation across various sectors.

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