Special Issue

Effect of Tree Diversity on Insect Herbivory in Forest Ecosystems

Message from the Guest Editors

Trees and forests provide a wide variety of ecosystem services. Insect pests threaten such services, making the development of environmentally sustainable management strategies to protect trees and forests a high priority in forest research. Over the last decade, increasing evidence has demonstrated that mixed forests are generally more resistant to insect pests than monospecific stands, a phenomenon known as associational resistance. However, a substantial number of studies have reported the opposite trend, i.e., a greater susceptibility of mixed forests. This Special Issue addresses the well-studied but still largely debated relationship between tree species diversity and insect herbivory. It compiles studies exploring several ecological factors likely to explain such discrepancies, including differences in the feeding guild, diet breadth or mobility of insect pests, or changes in the functional and phylogenetic composition of mixed forests. By doing so, it aims to build a more general understanding of the diversity–resistance relationship in mixed forests, and therefore helps to formulate possible predictive rules to protect forests against insect pests.

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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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