

Special Issue

Diversity, Dynamics and Ecological Functions of Forest Soil Fungal Communities

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue explores the **diversity** of soil fungi—including saprotrophs, pathogens, endophytes, and mycorrhizal species—and their **dynamics** across spatial, temporal, and successional gradients. Emphasis is placed on how **abiotic factors**—such as soil pH, moisture, carbon and nutrient availability—as well as **biotic factors**—including flora and fauna composition—drive shifts in fungal community assembly and functional guild distribution. Functionally, soil fungi mediate biomass decomposition, nutrient cycling, and plant productivity, while mycorrhizal fungi enhance nutrient uptake and influence carbon storage dynamics. The Special Issue also invites contributions that examine how **forest disturbances** (e.g., fire, logging, pests) and **forest management practices** alter fungal composition and roles—shifting balances among saprotrophic, symbiotic, and pathogenic guilds and impacting ecosystem processes. By integrating community ecology with ecosystem function, this collection aims to deepen understanding of forest resilience and inform conservation and restoration strategies in the face of global change.

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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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