Special Issue

Wood Identification: Formation, Structure and Function of Wood

Message from the Guest Editors

Secondary xylem (wood) formed due to the meristematic activity of the cambium is a complex tissue. In conifers, this includes tracheids and parenchyma cells; in dicotyledonous plants, this includes vessels, tracheids, fibers and parenchyma cells, which are more numerous than in conifers. Secretory structures also occur in wood, but they are not always a constitutive element, and are formed as a result of unfavorable factors. A special type of wood is reaction wood, formed in response to gravitropic stimuli and as a result of stress.

The features of wood cells have taxonomic value; through macro- and microscopic analysis, they enable the identification of woody plants and the conditions in which they grew, as an example. This Special Issue is aimed at examining the morpho-anatomical characteristics of wood cells in relation to cambial cell events, and the environmental factors that accompany the growth and development of juvenile and mature woody plants.

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