Special Issue

Plant Functional Traits in Forests: Variation and Linkages with Function

Message from the Guest Editors

Plant functional traits refer to the measurable properties of plants after long-term adaptation to the external environment and evolution. Plant external morphology, internal physiology, and ecosystem function, plant functional traits are closely related to plant growth, reproduction, and survival functions. However, our understanding of how plant traits and functions respond to environmental changes on spatial, temporal, and succession scales is still limited. To study of plant ecology, more studies are needed to reveal the relationships between plants and their environment as well as plant, community, and ecosystem functions. Potential topics: 1. Linkages between plant traits and functioning, whole plant performance, community or ecosystem processes. 2. Relationships between plant traits and community assembly. 3. Plasticity of plants along environmental gradients. Examples include variations in plant traits along spatial and temporal scales. 4. Variation in plant traits and their adaptation mechanism under global climate change.

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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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