

Special Issue

Ecological Interactions in Forest Understory

Message from the Guest Editors

Understory vegetation is one of the most important components of forest ecosystems, comprising a significant proportion of forest biodiversity and hosting most of the ecological processes responsible for proper forest functioning. Abiotic factors and biotic interactions can lead to changes in nutrient cycling and forest regeneration, influencing forest structure, composition, and diversity, as well as their stability and resilience. Despite their importance, the influence of different ecological interactions occurring in the understory and the mechanisms through which they shape forest responses to natural and anthropogenic disturbances are still understudied.

This Special Issue invites contributions addressing ecological interactions in forest understory from a theoretical, empirical, or modeling perspective. Reviews and research studies focused on abiotic or biotic interactions (including plant–plant interactions or interactions between plants and other organisms), across different spatial or temporal scales, and from a taxonomic, functional, or phylogenetic approach are welcome.

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