

Special Issue

Epigenetic Variation: A Component of the Woody Plant Adaptation

Message from the Guest Editors

Epigenetics refers to all molecular mechanisms that modify genome structure and/or activity without altering the DNA sequence. These changes may be heritable or non-heritable and result from chemical modifications such as DNA methylation, histone modifications, chromatin remodeling as well as other enzyme-driven changes (chromatin-modifying enzymes, signaling kinases). Non-coding RNA (ncRNA) molecules are also involved in regulating transcription at pre-transcriptional, transcriptional, and post-transcriptional levels. In the last decades, a number of studies on epigenetic variation in plant species have documented environmentally driven effects on epigenetic variation which contribute to modulating stress response and plant growth plasticity. This study is particularly relevant as it showcases the potential role that epigenetic mechanisms may play in modulating rapid adaptive responses in long-lived woody species amidst increasingly changing environments. This Special Issue “Epigenetic Variation: A Component of the Woody Plant Adaptation” will integrate original research and reviews related to all these aspects of woody plant epigenetics.

Guest Editors

Dr. María-Teresa Cervera

Prof. Dr. Carmen Díaz-Sala

Dr. María Ángeles Guevara

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Forests
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
forests@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa

Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia,
I-25121 Brescia, Italy

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