Special Issue

Nutrient Cycling through the Forest and Soil System

Message from the Guest Editors

The cycling of nutrients through the soil-plant community system is a basic reality of all vegetationbased terrestrial ecosystems, and is a necessity for their stable existence. Nevertheless, changing conditions of climate, soil and plant community autoecology enable such cycles to differentiate into a vastly different array of possible 'solutions', intended as combinations of processes that allow the persistence of the soilvegetation system. It is a seductive idea to treat each 'solution' as a major ecosystem trait. In the field of forests, the last few years have seen a large amount of research being published, contributing to the knowledge of nutrient fluxes from different approaches; yet, most publications were actually focused on different subjects. We feel that the time has now came to start a focused debate on forest nutrient cycles, aiming at a systematic approach. Thus, we propose a Special Issue centering on this theme. In this Special Issue, we will not treat any approach as preferential to any other, and we are encouraging the submission of studies dealing with soilforest nutrient cycles from different approaches.

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