

Special Issue

Plant Debris Decomposition and Soil Organic Matter Formation

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue aims to: (1) explore the 'decomposition-formation' linkages between plant debris (i.e., foliar and root) and soil organic matter across forest ecosystems; and (2) further evaluate the effects of abiotic (e.g., temperature and moisture) and biotic (e.g., microbes and fauna) factors on these 'decomposition-formation' processes. We invite contributions that evaluate the decomposition patterns and controls of carbon and nutrient released from plant debris, and the formation and stabilization of plant-derived soil organic matter by presenting evidence from case studies on global syntheses. Studies evaluating the interactions of plant debris inputs and soil organic matter formation, as well as the contribution of soil biota to these processes, are warmly welcomed. Papers submitted to this Special Issue are expected to advance our understanding of the mechanisms underlying the plant pathways of soil organic matter formation, which is a critical step necessary to better represent the fate of carbon in soil biogeochemical models.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Zhenfeng Xu

Prof. Dr. Xiangyin Ni

Dr. Rui Yin

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2022)



Forests

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 4.6



mdpi.com/si/102137

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

[mdpi.com/journal/
forests](https://mdpi.com/journal/forests)





Forests

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 4.6



[mdpi.com/journal/
forests](https://mdpi.com/journal/forests)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa

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

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, GEOBASE, PubAg, AGRIS, PaperChem, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Forestry) / CiteScore - Q1 (Forestry)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 16.8 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).