Special Issue

Environmental Assessment Using the Marine Meiofauna: Current Knowledge, Open Questions and Future Directions

Message from the Guest Editors

The term 'Meiofauna' evokes a hidden world of little critters with a huge biodiversity and wide variety of ecological strategies. In the marine realm, meiofaunal organisms are ubiquitous, inhabiting practically all water-sediment interfaces. This SI aims to address these knowledge gaps through a collection of recent findings regarding the response of the meiofauna to anthropogenic impacts and other stressors through various multidisciplinary approaches (e.g., traditional methods, molecular and -omics technologies) and by considering new perspectives (e.g., meiofaunamicrobiome interactions). Experimental studies are welcome, especially those focused on the meiofaunal response to emerging pollutants (e.g., pharmaceuticals and plastics). This collection will reinforce the practical utility of meiofauna as bioindicators. It will also help to establish a standardized approach to meiofaunal environmental quality assessments through the identification of knowledge gaps and the strengths and weaknesses of different methodological approaches.

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Editor-in-Chief

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