

Special Issue

Ice and Snow Microbiology

Message from the Guest Editors

Over the past decade, our view on cryosphere ecosystems has evolved drastically. What was once considered as inhospitable is now recognized as a diverse ecosystem with multiple niches for microbial communities. These communities are dynamic, complex and provide excellent models for our understanding of evolution, adaptation, function and community interactions. Much remains to be explored and in order to evaluate the consequences of climate-mediated alterations and the potential loss of microbes from the Earth's cryosphere, ice and snow ecosystems need to be fully characterized. This Special Issue will publish papers that address: (1) paradigms and future research on cryosphere microorganisms; (2) colonization, selection and adaptation of microbial communities; (3) interactions among microbial communities and the impact on ecosystem functioning (this includes viruses); (4) functional analyses of microbial communities in relation to changes in the environment; (5) the role of microorganisms in transforming their environment and feedback on cryosphere climate regulation; and (6) modeling of microbial community structure, interactions and function.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 20 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).