

Special Issue

Origin and Evolution of the East Asian Flora (EAF)

Message from the Guest Editors

The East Asian flora (EAF) is a key biodiversity hotspot for understanding the origin and evolution of Northern Hemisphere floras. Two main floras, the Sino-Himalayan Flora (mainly the Rhododendron Flora) and the Sino-Japanese Flora (mainly the Metasequoia Flora), have been recognized in the EAF. The EAF has high plant species diversity and contains many Cenozoic relict seed plants, and therefore, the assembly of the EAF over time is of great concern to both botanists and biogeographers. In recent years, due to the application of new technologies and theories, such as molecular phylogeny, molecular ecology, and phylogeography, great achievements have been made in further understanding a flora's evolutionary history in space and time. In this topic, regional flora, plant speciation, plant phylogeny and classification, endemism, relict elements, discontinuous distribution, and palaeoflora associated with EAF will be widely considered. Obviously, research that combines multiple pieces of evidence is extremely welcome.

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