Special Issue

Responses and Adaptations of Bryophytes to a Changing World

Message from the Guest Editors

Bryophytes can colonize a wide range of environments in all bioclimatic regions, mainly thanks to their ability to tolerate extended periods of dehydration by entering a state of cryptobiosis, from which they can recover their normal metabolism as soon as water becomes available again. The distribution of these plants depends both on general factors of climate, such as latitude and altitude, and on ecological factors (plant functional types). The role of bryophytes in the ecosystem, a largely overlooked field of study, may be significant despite their small size. The structure and function of a plant organism result from the interaction between genetics and its adaptation to the environment in which it lives. The effects of climate change on the environment are often disproportionate to the duration of the climate-change-induced phenomena. For this reason, the assessment of the impact of climate change on species, ecosystems and communities represents a significant challenge for basic research. In this respect, this Special Issue aims to collect studies on the ecological breadth of bryophytes in response to the environment in which they grow.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 June 2025)

Plants

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 7.6
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/147850

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Plants is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to plant function, its physiology, biology, taxonomy, stresses, and its interactions with other organisms. It publishes original research articles, reviews, reports, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. In original research papers, it is important that full experimental details are provided. We also encourage timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the plant research community.

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