

Special Issue

Taxonomy, Biogeography, Ecology, Conservation and Utilization of Gymnosperms

Message from the Guest Editor

Gymnosperms are defined by the naked or partially enclosed ovules/seeds, which are different from angiosperms. They are primitive seed plants, originated ca. 385 mya, and experienced a very long and complicated evolutionary history. There are 1201 extant gymnosperm species classified in 86 genera of 13 families, and many of them are relictual, e.g., *Cathaya argyrophylla*, *Cryptomeria japonica*, *Ginkgo biloba*, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*, *Taiwania cryptomerioides*, *Welwitschia mirabilis*, *Wollemia nobilis*, etc. Despite their low species diversity, gymnosperms have received worldwide attention due to their unusual phylogenetic position, unique combination of characters and ecological importance. In addition, gymnosperms are highly threatened, and many species will go extinct with global warming. However, many aspects of gymnosperms remain to be discovered. This Special Issue of *Plants* will highlight the systematics, biogeography, conservation and utilization of gymnosperms.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Yong Yang

Co-Innovation Center for Sustainable Forestry in Southern China,
College of Life Sciences, Nanjing Forestry University, Nanjing 210037,
China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 December 2025



Plants

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 7.6
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/211735

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

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





Plants

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 7.6
Indexed in PubMed



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



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Dilantha Fernando
Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB
R3T 2N2, Canada

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, PubAg, AGRIS, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Plant Sciences) / CiteScore - Q1 (Ecology, Evolution, Behavior and Systematics)