Special Issue

Strategies to Improve Vegetation Restoration, Alleviate Land Degradation and Encourage Sustainable Management in the Desert Ecosystem

Message from the Guest Editors

Drylands, covering 41% of the Earth's surface, with nearly 15% affected by salinity, are home to 38% of the global population. Arid and semiarid landscapes occupy 25.8% of the Earth's land surface and support 18.5% of its population, harboring unique biological and cultural diversity. Despite their scientific and socio-economic significance, global awareness is lacking regarding the efforts required to protect and manage these regions. The increasing aridity in global drylands due to climate change impacts ecosystem attributes such as nutrient cycling, plant productivity, and microbial communities. Arid lands have expanded in recent decades and are expected to continue growing due to poor management and changing climates. This Special Issue aims to focus on strategies for vegetation restoration, combating land degradation, and encouraging sustainable management in desert ecosystems to mitigate these challenges and achieve Sustainable Development Goal 15.

Guest Editors

Dr. Akash Tariq

Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Urumqi 830011, China

Prof. Dr. Fanjiang Zeng

Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography, Chinese Academy of Science, Urumqi, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026

Plants

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 7.6
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/223116

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

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

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)