

Special Issue

The Grand Canyon's Green Heart—The Flora of the Grand Canyon

Message from the Guest Editors

The Grand Canyon, one of the seven natural wonders of the world, is globally well known. However, its green heart—the collection of diverse plants within its great abyss—is less known and appreciated. Although home to nearly half of the flora of Arizona, a state that ranks third in the U.S.A. for its number of plant species, many aspects of the Canyon's plants and habitats remain a mystery.

This Special Issue will highlight the Canyon's green heart, including why it is so diverse, the Grand Canyon's role in plant species evolution and as a refugium and important genetic reservoir, and ongoing efforts to identify and monitor its rare and invasive species. We will additionally include topics related to the value of the Grand Canyon's riparian areas in its dry landscape, including the plant communities of perennial rivers, seeps, and springs. Based on this collection of knowledge, recommendations for future research will be provided.

Guest Editors

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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.

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