



## Tree Hybridization, Evolution and Sustainable Forestry Development

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Developments in molecular biology during the past three decades, especially in molecular genetics, have provided new tools to study the significance of interspecific hybridization in plant and animal kingdoms.

Using these new developments, it has become possible to demonstrate that interspecific hybridization can play a profound role in the evolution and adaptation of tree species and the sustainability of forest ecosystems. Among others, it can affect adaptation of the existing species as well as the rise of new uniquely adapted ones, able of conquering new habitats. Apart from being a driving force in the evolution and adaptation it can also play a negative role such as causing extinction of native species. It has therefore become imperative to promote studies devoted to unraveling evolutionary and ecological consequences of interspecific hybridization in forest trees.





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