



Functional Traits as Indicators of Environmental and Ecosystem Changes

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (31 January 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Ecological studies have recently moved from being centered in species identities and pairwise interactions, towards focusing on organisms' functional traits and behavior. Functional traits are well-defined, measurable properties of organisms that strongly influence organismal performance, and therefore define how such organisms interact with their surrounding biophysical environment. Understanding macroecological processes via mechanistic models of functional diversity has revealed itself as crucial for understanding not only community dynamics but also ecosystem processes and functionality.

We encourage authors to submit papers based on terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and considering functional traits of the plant and animal kingdoms. You are invited to submit an original article or communication based on your research in this area, or possibly a focused review paper on some aspect of the subject.

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