

Special Issue

Lichens as Bioindicators of Ecosystem Health, Environmental Monitoring, and Sustainable Biotechnology

Message from the Guest Editors

Lichens and their substances exert a broad spectrum of activities, with uses ranging from medicinal and cosmetic applications to environmental biomonitoring, soil bioremediation, and other biotechnological applications. The main problem is the low growth rate of these organisms, whose intensive use and collection, as well as human actions such as urban expansion and air pollution, can lead to the disappearance of key species. Contributions can cover, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- (i) The potential of lichens as bioindicators and biomonitors of environmental health;
- (ii) The ability of lichens to withstand (or not) any human intervention capable of destroying lichen biota resilience;
- (iii) Lichen and climate change or global warming;
- (iii) Biotechnological strategies for the maintenance of lichen biodiversity;
- (iv) Rational use and application of bioactive lichen metabolites;
- (v) Public policies for environmental conservation and/or preservation or socioeconomic impacts based on lichen occurrence;
- (vi) Lichen conservation based on environmental education for children and teenagers in primary and secondary stages.

Guest Editors

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Steve W. Lyon

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