Special Issue

Biodiversity and Functionality of Plankton Communities

Message from the Guest Editors

The diversity of both plankton components, as well as phyto- and zooplankton, reflect the existing conditions but also affect the processes of the whole aquatic ecosystem. Biodiversity can be typically assessed in terms of taxonomic diversity but numerous research data show that functional diversity, that refers to various functional traits in the plankton community, is often a more sensitive predictor of ecosystem functioning. Various types of plankton assemblage have an impact on ecosystem functioning, particularly on productivity and ecosystem stability. The application of plankton diversity and functionality can be used for the assessment of water quality, climate change-induced alterations, the evaluation of organic contamination or the impact of human-originated transformations in the catchment area, as well as food web interactions and its importance in the natural and experimental environment. It can also be applied in ecological modelling, and in the evaluation and monitoring of restored ecosystems.

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/water/special_issues/plankton_communities

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In the context of global changes, the sustainable management of water cycles, going from global and regional water cycles to urban, industrial and agricultural water cycles, plays a very important role on the water resources and on their relationships with food, energy, biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and human health. *Water* invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications and to propose special issues devoted to new technological and scientific domains and to interdisciplinary approaches of the water cycles. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

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