



Wood Pastures: Drivers for Ecological Sustainability and Conservation Management

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closed (30 June 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

We are launching a Special Issue on wood pastures, focused on conservation management and potential drivers of biodiversity. Forest lands have been historically grazed; however, agricultural intensification and human abandonment of rural areas have set wood pastures aside. In recent times, extensive grazing has gained popularity mainly from an increase of social demand towards a more friendly and sustainable production of foodstuffs (e.g., organic farming)—this includes the practice of grazing in wood pastures, which is expected to grow.

Wood pastures hold exceptional ecological, social, and cultural values. An approach through conservation management is crucial, and should respond to how we proceed to sustain biological diversity.

Maintaining aesthetics, preserving species, and protecting natural stabilizing mechanisms are all valid and not mutually exclusive arguments to address conservation management, and any other tactics to follow the common thread of maintaining (or restoring) natural diversity within the managed stand or landscape are welcome for this Special Issue.





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