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Ozone Impacts on Forests

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Message from the Guest Editors

Air pollution and climate change are identified as major issues affecting European society. Tree species can respond differently to climate change and air pollution, depending on several tree features, such as morphological, physiological, and chemical functional traits of leaves, phenotypic plasticity, plant phenology, and environmental conditions. Furthermore, several biotic and abiotic stressors in various geographic areas are involved in the intra-specific selection of plants that survive environmental stress by stress avoidance or tolerance. Tropospheric ozone (O3) is the most widespread and harmful pollutant to trees. The ability to avoid (stomatal regulation) and/or turn on tolerance mechanisms (activation of scavenging mechanisms) is diverse and specific among plant species, and it characterizes the response to O3 oxidative stress. Different provenances might respond differently to O3. We encourage studies from all fields, including experimental studies, monitoring observations, and modeling approaches to contribute to this Special Issue in order to promote knowledge for the identification of spatial and temporal behaviors in forests responses to O3 oxidative stress.

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Message from the Editorial Board

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