



Root Form and Function of Forest Tree Species in Varying Soils and Climates

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Fine root is the key organ for nutrients and water uptake in terrestrial plants, and thus plays a critical role in individual physiology, population dynamics, and ecosystem function and service. However, as the “hidden half” of plants, their morphology, structure and function are still underrepresented in comparison with the aboveground compartments. Recent advances in research on root functional traits have highlighted the fact that fine root traits are multidimensional within and among plant species. Conceptual frameworks of “root economics space” are proposed and tested across broad scales, all of which deepen our understanding of the linkage between root structure and function, as well as their relations to the global spectrum of plant form and function.

The aim of this Special Issue is to present the results of studies addressing important questions related to trees’ fine root morphology, anatomy, structure and function, as well as their interrelationships in the context of environmental change (e.g., climate and soil).





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