

Special Issue

Advances in Fungal Diseases in Forests

Message from the Guest Editors

The role of fungi and fungus-like pathogens and corresponding diseases in relation to forest health has been a subject of a wide number of studies. Many factors influence forest health, including climate, soil, available moisture, anthropogenic impact, and plant pathogens. Native pathogens are natural components of forests and, under normal conditions, disease levels are usually very low. However, this dynamic equilibrium can be shifted in favour of a pathogen and a disease outbreak occurring. Some of the main drivers of emerging infective diseases of forest trees which have been identified are invasive fungi, latent and cryptic pathogens, the emergence of new virulent and aggressive strains or species due to hybridization events, and climate change. Potential topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Studies of emerging fungal diseases in forest ecosystems;
- Detection and diagnostics;
- Phylogeny, ecology, and pathways of introduction;
- Effects of fungal diseases on forest ecosystems under climate change.

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