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Advances in Understanding of the Ecology and Biodiversity of Coleoptera: Coccinellidae

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Message from the Guest Editors

The family Coccinellidae (ladybirds) contains between 6000 and 7000 described species and they are important providers of services to terrestrial ecosystems. Not all species have been studied equally, as most studies focus on large, conspicuous generalists, invasive alien species, and those important for biological control. This means that many scientific gaps still persist, such as (i) the effect of global environmental change for individuals, species interactions, community structure, and dynamics and the resulting ecological and evolutionary feedbacks, (ii) more precise geographical biodiversity, especially on the African continent and parts of Asia, (iii) the lack of an evolutionary framework to place the described species into a subfamily-wide context, (iv) global opportunities for the monitoring and surveillance of Coccinellidae, (v) the assessment of the conservation status of the most threatened species, and (vi) strategies for conservation.

This Special Issue is an opportunity for scientists to share recent research on the biology, ecology, biodiversity, conservation, evolution, invasion biology, and biological control of ladybirds as a biological model.



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