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Ecology and Evolution of Plants in the Mediterranean Basin: From Knowledge to Conservation

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Message from the Guest Editors

The Mediterranean region, extending on ca. 2.3 million km², is one of the most important biodiversity hotspots at the global scale, hosting ca. 25,000 vascular plants of which ca. 1/3 are narrow endemics. Despite the considerable number of studies pertaining to the ecology and evolution of Mediterranean vascular plants published in recent decades, there are still many gaps of knowledge in several key arguments: from the genetic dynamics of populations, linked to the reproductive ecology, to adaptive strategies in harsh environments as revealed by traits analyses; or from the evolutionary role of peripheral and disjunct populations, to the unexplored relationships between vascular plants and neglected taxa such as fungi, bacteria and viruses. Mediterranean flora is increasingly under threat because of human pressure on coastal environments, abandonment and land use change in mountains and inland areas, as well as climate change effects are already impacting the basin.

If you are carrying out research on novel topics for the comprehension of the ecology and evolution of Mediterranean vascular plants, please join our efforts and publish with us in this Special Issue.



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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