



Nitrogen Cycling and Its Impact on Forest Soil Ecology in the Context of Global Climate Change

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 September 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Global climate is projected to change in the coming decades, representing a serious concern for global sustainability and human sustenance. Soil nitrogen dynamics in forest ecosystems is central to understanding ecosystem functioning and processes, such as primary production, nutrient cycling, and changes in water quality at regional and global scales. Soil N pool size and fluxes, N availability in plants, and N₂O emissions in terrestrial ecosystems are undoubtedly affected by microbial mediated N cycling such as N immobilization, mineralization, nitrification, and denitrification, while these processes are also highly responsive to climate change. Although studies have been conducted on the soil nitrogen dynamics of global and regional forest ecosystems for several decades, clarifying the nature of unique regional and geographical aspects of soil nitrogen dynamics has not yet been completed. In recent years, experimental techniques, such as isotope or molecular biological analysis, have been applied to forest ecosystems, and comparative, process-based modeling has also been employed to further our understanding of soil nitrogen dynamics.





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