

Special Issue

Forest Genetics and Tree Improvement

Message from the Guest Editor

Genetics has been recognized as an important component of forestry for over a century, starting with an understanding of the importance of geographic seed sources. Tree breeding has taken place for over 70 years, and substantial improvements have been made in growth, disease resistance and form traits. Beginning in the late 1960s, isozymes were used as the first molecular markers to assist with tree breeding efforts. By the 1980s, forest geneticists dreamed of using marker-assisted selection in trees. Since then, considerable progress has been made in the discovery of genetic tools. We now have millions of molecular markers available and analytical methods that will accelerate tree breeding. Research on genetically modified trees was initiated in the 1980s and forest trees genetically modified for a variety of characteristics have been produced. In this Special Issue, we are particularly enthusiastic about the integration of molecular genetics and genomics into tree improvement, including the development of markers, association genetics, genomic selection, and genetically modified trees. However, all facets of forest genetics will be considered for inclusion.

Guest Editor

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Forests (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and cross-disciplinary, scholarly forestry journal. The distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor and review of all published articles. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access. Our goal is to have *Forests* be recognized as one of the foremost publication outlets for high quality, leading edge research in this broad and diverse field. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global forestry community.

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