Special Issue

Wood Anatomy and Evaluation of Wood Structures and Their Modifications

Message from the Guest Editors

Wood is a remarkably complex and fascinating biological structure and natural lignocellulosic polymer. Xylem provides water conductive function, and structural support to the tree, and serves in the storage of nutrients.   Although the general features of the xylem are species-specific, many quantitative traits are modified by the growth environment (such as extreme events: frost, drought, flooding, lack of light, and pests). These modifications appear as anomalies in the xylem and in tree rings such as false-, frost-, light-, and blue-rings, etc. Mechanical stress (such as wind, snow, ice storms, mechanical injuries, and pruning) can also lead to the formation of atypical wood structures, such as reaction wood, wound wood, scar tissue, callus, necrotic tissue, etc. Moreover, understanding xylem structures and responses may be useful in predicting functional trends and climate change impacts on woody plants. This Special Issue aims to provide an overview of the latest knowledge on xylem anatomy evaluation and codification of xylem structures linked with their functional and ecological rule.

Guest Editors

Dr. Angela Balzano

Dr. Maks Merela

Prof. Dr. Veronica De Micco

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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.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Cate Macinnis-Ng
Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, New Zealand

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa
Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia, I-25121 Brescia, Italy

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