

Special Issue

Role of Human Interventions in Spread of Soilborne Forest Pathogens and Methods for Mitigation

Message from the Guest Editor

Forests and natural ecosystems worldwide are under increasing threat from new diseases spread internationally through trade and other human-mediated pathways. Various human interventions are assisting the transfer of pathogens from sites of early introduction and establishment to trees in plantation forests and natural landscapes. For example, commercial forestry and farming activities, conservation planting of native species into vulnerable natural habitats and recreational activities. The purpose of this Special Issue is to bring together this evidence by collating global examples that document human-mediated spread of soilborne forest pathogens into wider environments, unravel the social and commercial challenges to curtailing risky practices, and explore methods for mitigation through improved biosecurity, diagnostics, social awareness, and policy. We encourage contributions to this Special Issue from all relevant fields, including experimental studies, reports on surveillance and diagnostics methodologies, and social and economic appraisals, in order to promote understanding of the risk of spread of soilborne pathogens into forests and methods for mitigation of that risk.

Guest Editor

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