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Patterns and Biotic Drivers of Tree Mortality in Diverse Forests in the Anthropocene

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Message from the Guest Editor

Tree mortality is a complicated process that typically involves several different predisposing, inciting, and contributing climatic and biotic factors, resulting in tree decline and dieback. Determining where and why tree mortality events increase, and how these drivers affect certain tree taxa, are central questions in the study of forest processes. Numerous studies on tree mortality are advancing the representation of biology, dynamics, and ecologically different biotic drivers, but require more empirical knowledge regarding the most common drivers and their subsequent mechanisms. An awareness of the biotic drivers of tree mortality can also contribute to the understanding of associated ecological and evolutionary consequences of biotic interactions along environmental gradients.

This Special Issue welcomes recent research focused on elucidating mechanisms driving massive and background tree mortality, with special emphasis on different biotic drivers. Thus, this Special Issue promotes the dissemination of knowledge in the preservation of diversity and resilience in forest ecosystems.



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