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Diversity, Biogeography and Community Ecology of Ants II

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Message from the Guest Editor

Ants are a highly diverse and ecologically dominant faunal group globally. They play important roles in most terrestrial ecosystems as soil engineers, predators and recyclers of nutrients, and have particularly important interactions with plants as defenders against herbivores, as seed dispersers and as seed predators. Ants are model organisms for studies of community ecology, making important contributions to an understanding of niche dynamics, species co-existence, and community assembly. Ants are widely used as bio-indicators in land management. Despite the ecological dominance of ants, a large proportion of species remain undescribed, the biogeographic histories of many taxa remain poorly known, and we have a limited understanding of spatial patterns of diversity and composition, along with the processes driving these patterns. We are seeking contributions to this Special Issue that relate to any aspect of the diversity, biogeography, and community ecology of ants.

Keywords

- ants
- ant–plant interactions
- bioindicators
- biogeography
- community ecology
- ecosystem function
- functional groups



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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