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Stable Isotopes and Forest Ecological Research

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Message from the Guest Editor

In recent years, stable isotope ecology has grown tremendously; stable isotopes of carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$), nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$), strontium ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$), hydrogen (δD) and oxygen ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$), calcium ($\delta^{44}/^{42}\text{Ca}$ and $\delta^{44}/^{40}\text{Ca}$) and magnesium ($\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$) were employed to understand the changing community structure, nutrient and water-use efficiency through tree ring isotope analyses, base cation source and depletion in the forest and other vegetated ecosystems, as well as plant–soil and plant–animal interactions. Stable isotope ecology has benefitted ecosystem analysts' understanding of ecosystems' structure and function, and offered new perspectives of probable mechanisms of functioning.

In this Special Issue, our aim is to reinforce our current understanding by highlighting recent research studies employing stable isotopes in forest ecology, forest litter decomposition, forest biogeochemistry, forest soil, dendrochronology, forest ecohydrology and forest ecophysiology.



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Special Issue



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