

Editorial

A Global And Multidisciplinary Open Access Scientific Journal.

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EDITORIAL

The inaugural issue of *Forests*, which was founded to offer thorough coverage of forest ecology, conservation, and management, was released in March 2010. Publishing process-based and applied scholarly articles covering the technological, environmental, cultural, economic, and social spheres related to the management, use, conservation, and comprehension of forested ecosystems has been made possible by *Forests*, an international and multidisciplinary journal. By all measures, *Forests* is in a strong position to emerge as a leading publication in this broad area of research. During its brief existence, *Forests* was ranked 25th out of 62 Forestry journals in 2013 with its first Impact Factor (1.094—Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)/Web of Science). Notably, out of all the open access publications in this area, *Forests* came in first. The online and Open Access format of *Forests* is a distinctive feature that has helped explain its early success in comparison to other forestry journals. Scientists, practitioners, policymakers, students, and other interested parties who would not otherwise have access to subscribed forestry journals can now view articles for free online. All search engines offer the ability to query and retrieve the complete text of published articles. As a result, *Forests* has seen an annual increase in citations and article submissions. There were 66 articles published in 2013, and they came from 25 different nations. Authors from Germany, Canada, and the United States Brazil and Sweden produced the most papers that were published. Furthermore, 22,860 full-text downloads of publications published in 2013 were made. 2013 saw an average publication period of roughly 79 days from initial submission to publication, which was marginally longer than 2012's 71 days. It should be mentioned that *Forests* will transition from a quarterly to a monthly publication starting in January 2014, with articles published in the journal being posted to the Web of Science the same month. Submissions

of articles from a broad range of topics are encouraged, including: Forests 2014,5The ecology, management, and restoration of forestsPlanning, policy, and economics of forests and silvicultural systemsForest pathology and entomologyThe biology and ecology of forestsBiotechnology, tree breeding, and forest geneticsThe effects of climate change, forest adaptation, and forest mitigation Forest biomass, bioenergy, and carbon sequestrationTropical forest management and forest engineeringRemote sensing, forest inventory, and quantitative techniques; forest soil management; forest simulation modeling; recreation in forests and the natural world; and wildland fire research and managementThe characteristics of wood and human dimensionsUrban forestsThe timely publication of Special Issues, which have concentrated on current and scientifically relevant subjects, has also helped to increase the recognition of forests on a global scale. Eleven more special issues covering a range of subjects, including papers from technical sessions held at the 24th IUFRO World Congress in Salt Lake City, Utah (USA), are planned. Three special issues were published in 2013 (Forest Restoration and Regeneration; Fusiform Rust Disease—Biology and Management of Resistance; Improving Wood Quality from Planted Forests). I am really grateful for the excellent Editorial Board of *Forests* in my capacity as Editor-in-Chief. The range of forestry sub-disciplines and thematic topics is represented by our distinguished and varied 40-member scientific Editorial Board. All published works have been subjected to the highest level of scientific rigor and scrutiny thanks to their combined and collective experience. Additionally, since this committed service is a selfless gift of their time and effort, I would also want to acknowledge the important contributions made by the paper reviewers (mentioned in the Appendix). As everyone knows, the peer review procedure gives the journal reputation and scientific credibility. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and

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members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality.

The diligent and comprehensive assessments, recommendations, and remarks made by the reviewers and members of the editorial board have greatly impressed me and have undoubtedly contributed to the improvement of the manuscript's quality. Additionally, I want to express my gratitude to the Forests editorial office. The work of Dr. Shu-Kun Lin, the publisher, Dr. Martyn Rittman, the production editor, and Dr. Echo Zhang, the managing editor, has been superb. With Forests, we are lucky to have the experience and wide-ranging scientific support of MDPI, a global organization based in Basel, Switzerland, which has been publishing peer-reviewed, fully Open Access academic journals since 1996. Lastly, the Editorial Board considers Forests to be a cutting-edge journal for studies pertaining to forestry. Our shared objective is for Forests to be known as one of the premier publishing houses for excellent, cutting-edge research in this wide-ranging and complex topic. Naturally, this objective will depend on Forests 2014, 5 on the audience and prospective writers. In order to share your significant research discoveries with the global forestry community, we kindly ask that you submit your original research articles, review papers, notes, and recommendations for Special Issues to Forests.