

Announcement of Special Issue for the **SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY**

Smoke Ecology and Applications of Plant-Derived Smoke

Plant-derived smoke and several compounds from plant-derived smoke are known to play an intriguing role in regulating germination and may also affect plant growth and development. Moreover, in many ecosystems, these effects can have a significant impact on the dynamics of plant community structures. This topic has received increasing international interest over the last 25 years, with many scientists now working in this field worldwide.

The *South African Journal of Botany* would like to publish a Special Issue on “**Smoke Ecology and Applications of Plant-Derived Smoke**”. Given the impact of this research in ecosystems globally, the issue will play a role in highlighting the research that has been conducted worldwide and provide a stimulus for future research. Furthermore, since there will be a Special Session on Smoke Ecology at the 6th International Fire Ecology & Management Congress (hosted by the Association for Fire Ecology) to be held in San Antonio, Texas, USA from 16-20 November 2015, it is envisaged that this special session will form the base of papers and discussion for this special issue, and presenters at this event are invited to submit their papers.

The Special Issue on “**Smoke Ecology and Applications of Plant-Derived Smoke**” will include papers from the Special Session on Smoke Ecology at the 6th International Fire Ecology & Management Congress, but will also publish reviews and original research articles addressing issues related to the effects of plant-derived smoke extracts and isolated compounds on all aspects of plant growth and development, be they ecological, botanical, agricultural, horticultural or related to restoration of natural vegetation.

Manuscripts should be submitted via the online submission website at www.evise.com. All manuscripts will go through the normal peer-review process and must meet the journal's criteria for quality and scope. Submissions should be accompanied by a statement in a cover letter that “the manuscript should be considered for publication in the Special Issue on **Smoke Ecology and Applications of Plant-Derived Smoke**”. Authors are encouraged to carefully follow the detailed “Guide for authors” that are available at www.elsevier.com/journals/south-african-journal-of-botany/0254-6299/guide-for-authors.

Important dates:

- Deadline for submissions is **February 29, 2016**
- Revised submissions are due on **June 20, 2016**
- The target date for online publication is September 2016

Sincerely,

Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Johannes Van Staden, South Africa (rcpgd@ukzn.ac.za)

Guest Editor: Dr Mary Lata, USA (mlata@fs.fed.us)

Guest Editor: Dr Matthew Daws, Australia (Matthew.Daws@alcoa.com.au)

Guest Editor: Dr Marnie Light, South Africa (lightm@ukzn.ac.za)