Phytocoenologia: New direction from 2015

Phytocoenologia is one of the reference specialized journals in the field of vegetation or community ecology. It was founded by Reinhold Tüxen in 1973, with a great influence in the description of plant communities, but changing to a wider scope step by step, leading to the inclusion of papers on diversity, classification, functioning and ecology of vegetation. Tüxen was its first editor-in-chief during the first five volumes. Then Otti Wilmanns followed him until 1997, and she in turn was substituted by Ulrich Deil until 2014.

With his retirement, the new team together with the publisher and IAVS took the chance to adjust many things. Most importantly, for the new era they decided to be more focused in the scope, and accordingly *Phytocoenologia* now publishes exclusively papers developing or using vegetation typologies (classifications), leaving other vegetation ecology topics to the many other journals in the field that have emerged since the foundation of *Phytocoenologia*. Moreover, a new organizational structure was chosen for the Editorial team. Instead of a single Editor-in-Chief as before the new *Phytocoenologia* will have a team of eight Editors-in-Charge, being a standard procedure in many scientific journals. This team is composed by: Erwin Bergmeier, Jürgen Dengler, Monika Janišová, Florian Jansen, Pavel Krestov, Jan Roleèek, Donald A. Walker and Wolfgang Willner.

Each member has equal rights and obligations and for instance they will have rotatory turns to serve as Receiving Editor during three months approx. He or her will receive and distribute incoming papers to the rest of editors, depending of each scientific specialty of members, in order to make the peer-review process more efficient in time or in linguistic facility to check the correctness and clarity of the articles.

The new editorial team members of *Phytocoenologia* are mostly also members (with a different role of leading) of IAVS (International Association of Vegetation Science), and it is their intention to connect the leader international IAVS journals (JVS, AVS) with regionally (country) journals on the same scope through the new *Phytocoenologia* to make a future international net of research on Community Ecology. This intention is reflected in the new subtitle *International Journal for Vegetation Survey and Classification*. (Bergmeier & al., 2015. Re-launch of Phytocoenologia: new profile for the classic vegetation ecology journal. Phytocoenologia 45: 1-10).

Respect the Editorial Board, it consists of 41 members from 23 countries who will provide experts or reviewers from a broad expertise.

Phytocoenologia made some minor changes with respect to 'Instructions to Authors'. The layout of the journal has been adjusted to present-day standards of scientific publishing. For instance, the use of small capitals for text citing will be change to standard letters and English will be the main language used.

Following the former quality standards of *Phytocoenologia* the new team commits to make the necessary efforts to increase the impact factor in the scientific community. Some of the former standards included: abstracted in different indexing services, back issues available online, management of manuscripts on line, doi for accepted manuscripts, and soon publication online (prepub).

Now the journal offers new options to authors: color pages at reasonable prices (i.e. full-page color plates), online supplements (i.e. full relevé tables, original data, photo documentations of community descriptions, etc.), open access option paid by authors to increase the visibility of research. The journal will select an article every issue for free access content.

Together to the classical sections of Editorial or Research papers new permanent sections have been organize into two particular subjects: Ecoinformatics and Phytosociological Nomenclature, both admitting research papers, proposals, or reports.

We wish this experience and professional Editor-in-charge team a successful re-launching! We are sure it will be according to the future of Plant Community Ecology perspectives.

We also include the index of the new *Phytocoenologia* issue (Volume 45, Numbers 1-2, 2015):

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