

Ants are probably the most dominant insect family on earth, and flowering plants have been the dominant plant group on land for more than 100 million years. In recent decades, human activities have degraded natural environments with unparalleled speed and scale, making it increasingly apparent that interspecific interactions vary not only under different ecological conditions and across habitats, but also according to anthropogenic global change. This is the first volume entirely devoted to anthropogenic effects on the interactions between these two major components of terrestrial ecosystems. A first-rate team of contributors report their research from a variety of temperate and tropical ecosystems worldwide, including South, Central and North America, Africa, Japan, Polynesia, Indonesia, and Australia.

The volume provides an in-depth summary of the current understanding for researchers already acquainted with insect-plant interactions, yet is written at a level to offer a window into the ecology of ant-plant interactions for the mostly uninitiated international scientific community.

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Front cover photograph: *Camponotus* worker on a *Calliandra* stalk at Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, Brazil. © Hélio Soares Jr.

Back cover photograph: Mutualistic *Petalomyrmex* in nest plant, *Leonardoxa africana*. © R. Blatrix

Cover design: Andrew Ward

"*Ant-Plant Interactions* is the definitive and greatly needed treatise on a subject of importance to general terrestrial ecology and the study of Earth's dominant social insects."

Edward O. Wilson,
Harvard University

"This edited volume offers a timely, comprehensive treatment of ways in which ecologically diverse ant-plant interactions are affected by, and are responding to, human-induced changes to the landscape [...] it authoritatively reviews, presents new data, and highlights critical gaps in our nascent understanding of ants' critical roles in terrestrial ecosystems."

Judith L. Bronstein,
University of Arizona

"Ants are intrinsically fascinating, so are plants, and their interactions result in evolutionary gymnastics we can hardly conceive of [...] Basic and applied interests in the topic are broadly represented by a stellar list of internationally recognized authors covering a diversified geographic range."

Peter W. Price,
Northern Arizona University



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