

Editorial

## Unifying biomicrometeorological measurements

This special issue, dedicated to ChinaFLUX and other AsiaFLUX stations, shows the great potential of unifying biomicrometeorological measurements in diverse ecological communities. The economic, scientific, and technological advancements of many Asian countries, including China, Japan, Korea, India, Pakistan, and their Southeast Asian neighbors is changing the face of science.

A closer examination of one example, of Chinese flux sites, is relevant in this context. Chinese governmental agencies, academic institutions, and science and technology non-governmental organizations (NGOs) must be commended for their rapid creation of biomicrometeorological stations across China. In addition to the ChinaFLUX network described in this

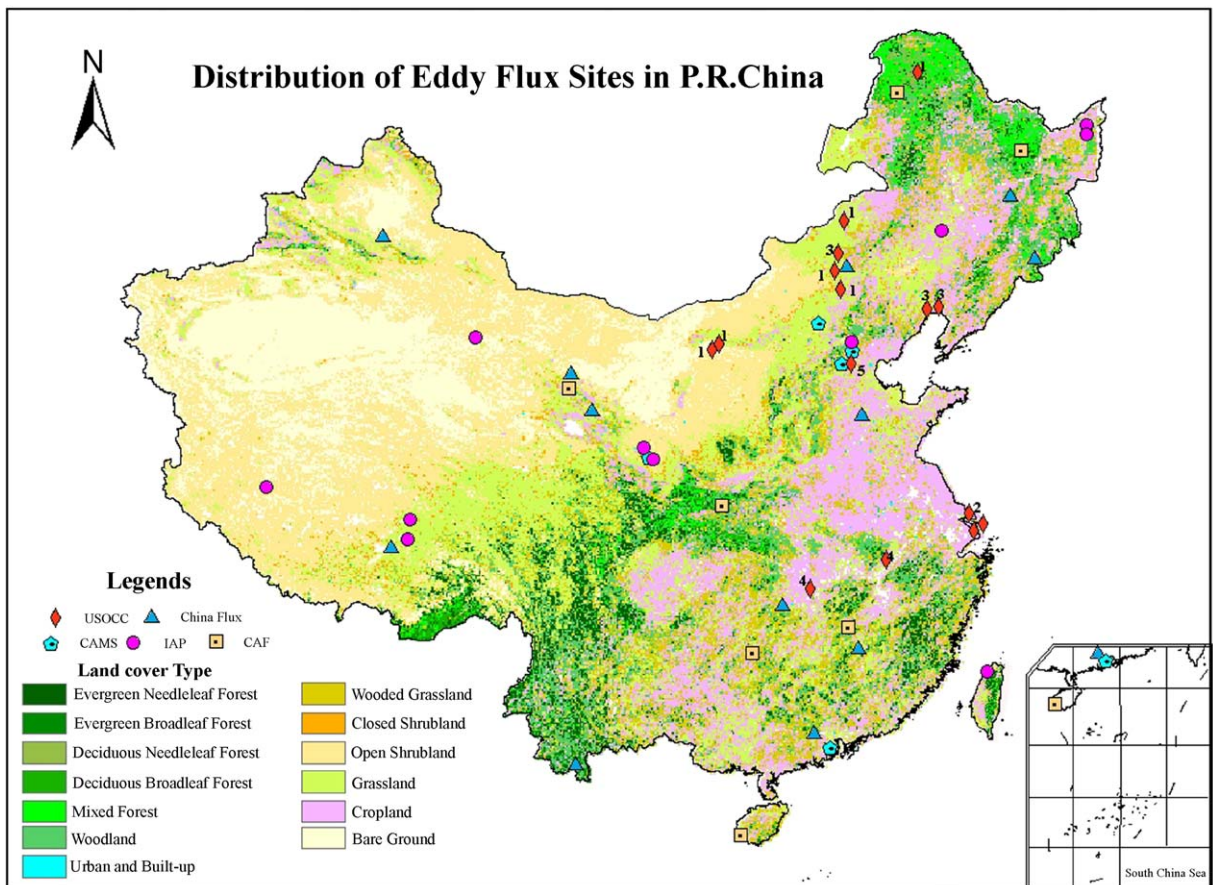


Fig. 1. USCCC: Members of US–China Carbon Consortium. (1) Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IBCAS); (2) Fudan University (FU); (3) Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences (CAMS); (4) Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF); (5) Beijing Forestry University (BFU). China Flux. CAMS: Chinese Academy of Meteorological Science; IAP: Institute of Atmospheric Physics; CAF: Chinese Academy of Forestry.

special issue, representing 12 stations, several agencies, organizations, and individual efforts have established at least an additional 39 stations, as described below in Fig. 1. These additional stations are operated by (or in cooperation with) such organizations as the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences, academic institutions, the Chinese Academy of Forestry, the United States–China Carbon Consortium (USCCC), other Chinese and US university and research institutions, and individual operators, representing several networks, each with their own set of protocols. A number of these stations were established before the ChinaFLUX stations. A strong recommendation is to implement, as soon as possible, an effective, unified approach to inclusive data sharing and analysis as well as other collaborative efforts amongst these different flux networks, governmental agencies, NGO's, and indivi-

duals. Such close collaborations could rapidly produce mutually synergistic, globally significant scientific advances and would be a tribute to the substantial resources allocated by governmental agencies, NGO's, and individual researchers. Global scale science requires such collaboration. These collaborations could also serve as a shining example for other biomicrometeorological networks and sites around the globe.

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