

CONTENTS

1. ECOSYSTEM AND ALLIED CONCEPTS 1—22
Introduction. Phytosociology and its Limitations—Schulz's Concept of Leading Species. The Ecosystem. Homoeostasis and Stability of Ecosystems. Ecosystem Management and Optimization. Evolution of Ecosystems. Ecosystem Dynamics. Ecosystem Characterization. References
2. COMMUNITY AND POPULATION ECOLOGY 23—59
Species Richness. Population Density. The Niche Concept. Diversity-Stability Relations. Regulation of Species Diversity. Estimation of Niche Overlap and Species Interactions. Interactions among Species. Ecology of Different Animal Groups. Animal-Plant Interactions. References
3. ENERGETICS AND NUTRIENT CYCLES 60—98
Energetic Relations of Ecosystems. Biogeochemical Cycles. Nutrient Cycling and Litter Decomposition in Forests. The Significance of Parasitic Systems in Ecology. References
4. SYSTEMS ECOLOGY, CONTINUUM CONCEPT AND SUCCESSION 93—123
Systems Ecology. The Continuum Concept of Vegetation. Succession. References
5. WORLD BIOTA 124—128
Major Biomes. Tropical Vegetation. World Vegetation Types. References
6. ECOLOGICAL STUDIES IN SOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES 129—162
Work in Developing Countries. Ecological Research in India. Grazing Lands. Range Management. Mutualistic Interactions Between Arid Zone Plants and Animals. References

7. THE BIOSPHERE AND ITS POLLUTION—WATER POLLUTION **163—208**

Introduction. What is a Pollutant? Water Pollution. Thermal Pollution. Mercury Pollution. Eutrophication. Effects of Pollution on Ecosystems. Biological and Genetic Effects of Pollutants. Prevention and Control of Pollution. References

8. AIR POLLUTION **209—235**

Introduction. Sources. Photochemical Smog. Estimation. Dispersion. General Effects. Effects of Pollutants on Climate and Weather. Effects on Higher Plants. Effects on Lichens and Bryophytes. Pollution and Historical Monuments. References

9. NATURAL RESOURCES AND THEIR CONSERVATION **236—255**

Natural Resources. Survey. Conservation of Natural Areas and Biota. Conservation of Biosphere Reserves. Environmental Quality Standards. References

GLOSSARY **256—269**

FURTHER READINGS **272—280**

AUTHOR INDEX **281—284**

SUBJECT INDEX **285—286**

SUBJECT INDEX (Contd.) **287—293**