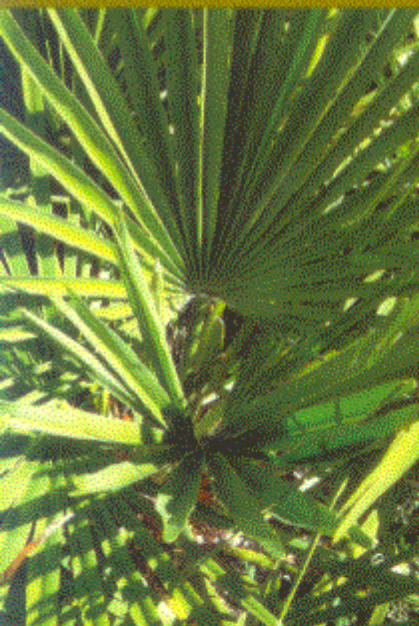


Bringing together the viewpoints of leading ecologists concerned with the processes that generate patterns of diversity, and of evolutionary biologists who focus on mechanisms of speciation, this book opens up discussion in order to broaden understanding of how speciation affects patterns of biological diversity, especially the uneven distribution of diversity across time, space and taxa studied by macroecologists. The contributors discuss questions such as: Are species equivalent units, providing meaningful measures of diversity? To what extent do mechanisms of speciation affect the functional nature and distribution of species diversity? How can speciation rates be measured using molecular phylogenies or data from the fossil record? What are the factors that explain variation in rates? Written for graduate students and academic researchers, the book promotes a more complete understanding of the interaction between mechanisms and rates of speciation and patterns in biological diversity.



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Cover image: *Chamaerops humilis*, the most northerly distributed palm species, growing in the Algarve. Although Palms have adapted to exploit many different habitats, the exposed apical meristem characteristic of their growth form limits the evolution of frost resistance. This speciose and ecologically important family therefore remains largely restricted to tropical and subtropical ecosystems worldwide.
Photo Courtesy of Jon Bridle.



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