



PLANT DISTURBANCE ECOLOGY

The Process and the Response

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- Advances understanding in natural disturbance by combining physical and ecological processes
- Provides a framework for collaborations between physical scientists and ecologists studying natural disturbances
- Explains the emerging idea of vegetation dynamics replacing succession
- Includes useful information for physical scientists, plant ecologists, environmental scientists, environmental managers, and foresters

The development of plant disturbance ecology from a descriptive science to a more predictive science requires a clear understanding of how the physical processes involved in natural disturbances are linked to the ecological responses of individual plants, plant populations and communities. *Plant Disturbance Ecology* is the first book to provide a framework for such understanding with paired chapters written by physical scientists and ecologists. Organized according to plant disturbance processes (wind, ice storm, geomorphic, hydrologic, combustion, and biotic), this book takes a fresh look at plant disturbance dynamics. Each section provides background on the physical or biotic processes involved in the disturbance, an explanation of how the disturbance causes necrosis or death to individual plants, and the effects on population or community processes. The incorporation of the latest research and information on various disturbances makes this book an ideal reference for physical scientists, ecologists and students in a variety of fields.

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