



Seedlings are highly sensitive to their environment. After seeds, they typically suffer the highest mortality rate of any life history stage. This book provides a thoughtful and comprehensive review by leading researchers of the interconnected topics that constitute seedling ecology and ecophysiology, focusing on how and why seedlings are successful. It considers the importance of seedlings in plant communities; environmental factors with special impact on seedlings; the morphological and physiological diversity of seedlings, including mycorrhizae; the relationship of the seedling with other life stages; seedling evolution; and seedlings in human-altered ecosystems, including deserts, tropical rainforests, and habitat-restoration projects. The diversity of seedlings is portrayed by specialized groups, such as orchids, bromeliads, and parasitic and carnivorous plants. This important text sets the stage for future research and is valuable to graduate students and researchers in plant ecology, botany, agriculture, and conservation.

The editors are well known for their work in soil seed-bank ecology. Mary Allesio Lick, Emeritus Professor of Biology, Rider University, has worked on seed ecology of tidal freshwater wetland species, and on wetland education for urban youth; V. Thomas Parker, Professor of Biology, San Francisco State University, on tidal wetland, chaparral, and mycorrhizal ecology, and *Arctostaphylos* evolution; and Robert L. Simpson, Professor of Biology and Environmental Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn, on freshwater wetland ecology and the natural history of Michigan.

"I commend it strongly to all those who seek thoughtful up-to-date reviews of the wide range of inter-connected topics that constitute seedling ecology and ecophysiology."

Peter Grubb, University of Cambridge

Designed by Phil Treble.

Cover photograph: oak seedling from Photowood Inc.

© Photolibary. All rights reserved.

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS
www.cambridge.org

ISBN 978-0-521-69466-7



9 780521 694667 >