A more complete understanding of plant-based ecological community structure requires knowledge of the integration of direct and indirect effects in plant–herbivore systems. Trait modification of plants as a result of herbivory is very common and widespread in terrestrial plants, and this initiates indirect interactions between organisms that utilize the same host plant. This book argues that food webs alone are inadequate models for understanding ecological communities because they ignore important indirect, nontrophic links. This subject is of great importance not only in understanding community organization, but also in identifying the underlying mechanisms for maintaining biodiversity in nature. This book will be an invaluable resource for researchers and graduate students interested in community and population ecology, evolutionary biology, biodiversity, botany, and entomology.

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Cover illustration: plant-based indirect interaction web. An interaction network consists not only of direct trophic interactions, but also of nontrophic indirect interactions generated by herbivore-induced changes in plant traits. Illustration by Joanne Itami and Yoshino Ando.

Designed by Hart McLeod

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ISBN 0-521-85039-8

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