Bookreview

N. S. ABROSOV, B. G. KOVROV et O. A. ČEREPAŇOV

EKOLOGIČESKIJE MECHANISMY SOSUŠČESTVOVANIJA I VIDOVOJ REGULACIJI

[Ecological mechanisms of coexistence and species regulation]

Nauka, Novosibirsk 1982, 301 pp., 90 Figs., 7 Tabs., Price Rubles 3.—.

This book presents a theory of species diversity regulation in ecological communities, expressed mainly in the form of mathematical models. The theory is based on extensive knowledge of world-wide literature (Russian and English papers approximately equally represented, altogether 309 references) and on the authors' experiments particularly with the continuous cultivation of microorganisms. Considerable effort has been made to increase model reality. For example, in competition models, substrates (resources) are taken into account; balance equations are used for description. All types of interspecific interactions are examined (including various combinations, e.g. two prey-two predator systems). In the last chapter, problems of community level organisation are discussed.

I found the book very interesting. Unfortunately, the results remain hidden to most researchers in English speaking countries; an English translation would overcome this barrier.

JAN LEPŠ