CONTENTS

Preface
Fernando Valladares, Antonio Camacho, Arturo Elosegi, Carlos Gracia, Marta Estrada, Joan Carles Senar and Josep Maria Gili 17

1. A human and Scientific Portrait of Ramon Margalef (1919-2004)
Carlos Gracia 21

2. Transients and the Dynamics of Ecological Systems
Alan Hastings
2.1. Introduction 39
2.2. Dynamics in ecological systems 40
2.3. Role of stability 41
2.4. Explicit consideration of dynamics 43
2.5. Transient dynamics 45
2.5.1. Spatial systems 46
2.5.2. Multiple species 48
2.5.3. A specific example of transients in *Tribolium* in both lab and model 50
2.6. Conclusions 50
Acknowledgments 52
References 52

3. Climate and Disturbances Affecting Rivers: From Microbes to Ecosystems
Sergi Sabater
3.1. Introduction: climate and disturbances shape structure and functioning of river ecosystems 55
3.2. River systems in the context of the global water fluxes 59

3.3. Disturbances at different temporal and spatial scales: the response of organisms 63
3.3.1. Scales in river systems 63
3.3.2. Spatial scales operating in microbial organisms in rivers: from habitat to reach 65
3.3.3. Short-term vs. long-term disturbances on rivers: effects on ecosystem functioning 68
3.4. Conclusions 74
3.5. Summary 75
Acknowledgments 76
References 76

4. From Phosphorus and VOCs to Biodiversity: Some Studies on the Effects of Global Change Inspired by Margalef's Legacy
Josep Peñuelas, Alistair Jump, Jordi Sardans, Iolanda Filella, Marc Estiarte, Romà Ogaya, Joan Llusià, Sue Owen and Francisco Lloret
4.1. Introduction 83
4.2. Phosphorus limitation 83
4.3. Secondary compounds that are rich in carbon 85
4.4. Volatile organic compounds 87
4.5. Climate change 87
4.6. Other components of global change 90
4.7. Changes in land use: fragmentation 90
Acknowledgments 93
References 93

5. The Ecology of Environmental Changes: A Palaeolimnological Perspective
Jordi Catalán
5.1. Introduction 95
5.1.1. Global Change: a challenge for ecology as a science 95
5.1.2. Global Change: a polyhedric amalgam 98
5.1.3. Lakes as records of environmental information 102
5.2. A vision of global change from the perspective of palaeolimnology 104
5.2.1. Incipient responses to climate change 104
5.2.2. Timescales of the response 105

5.2.3. Regional coherence of ecosystem dynamics 107
5.2.4. Abrupt climate changes 107
5.2.5. Advantages and limitations of space for time analogies 109
5.2.6. Interdependence between biogeochemistry and ecodemography 111
5.2.7. Interference between different components of global change 113
5.3. Conclusions 114
Acknowledgments 115
References 116

6. Quantifying and Testing Species Coexistence Mechanisms
Peter Chesson
6.1. Introduction 119
6.2. Stable coexistence mechanisms, and their quantification 121
6.2.1. Measuring recovery from low density 122
6.2.2. Quantifying coexistence 124
6.3. Partitioning the growth rate into contributions from different mechanisms 128
6.4. Expressing mechanism contributions in terms of functional components 132
6.4.1. The storage effect 132
6.4.2. Relative nonlinearity of competition 146
6.4.3. Fitness-density covariance 150
6.5. The community average approach 151
6.6. How these measures can be used for hypothesis testing 155
6.6.1. Testing the storage effect 155
6.6.2. Testing mechanisms in combination: the recruitment variation hypothesis 157
6.7. Discussion 160
Acknowledgments 161
References 161

7. Neutral Theory and Community Ecology
Jerome Chave
7.1. Introduction 165
7.2. Statistical models of species abundance 167

7.3. The emergence of neutrality 170
7.3.1. Models in population genetics before the molecular era 170
7.3.2. Neutral models of molecular evolution 173
7.3.3. Statistical inference 174
7.4. Neutrality in community ecology 176
7.4.1. Emergence in the 70s: Watterson, Caswell, and Hubbell 176
7.4.2. Critiques of Hubbell's 1979 model 178
7.4.3. Regional species pools and dispersal limitation 179
7.5. Testing the predictions of the neutral theory 182
7.6. Discussion 185
7.7. Summary 187
Acknowledgments 187
References 188

8. Explorations on Phytoplankton Diversity. An Appreciation of Ramon Margalef's Contributions
Marta Estrada
8.1. Introduction 191
8.2. Diversity and information theory 192
8.3. Diversity and stability 198
8.4. The diversity-stability debates 200
8.5. Diversity and biodiversity 201
8.6. Hydrodynamics and phytoplankton diversity 204
8.7. Diversity and productivity 206
8.8. Measurements in phytoplankton communities. An example from the NW Mediterranean 207
8.9. Technological perspectives 215
8.10. Concluding remarks 216
8.11. Summary 217
Acknowledgments 218
References 218

9. Mechanisms of Ecological Control over Time: Evidence from Coastal Ecosystems
Ivan Valiela and Sophia E. Fox
9.1. Introduction 223
9.2. A long-lived odyssey: diversity and its role 223
9.3. Another ecological controversy: top-down or bottom-up control? 232

Acknowledgments 241
References 242

10. Conservation of Plant Populations. Myths and Paradigms
José María Iriondo, Adrián Escudero and María José Albert
10.1. Introduction 247
10.2. Rarity and extinction 249
10.3. Genetic diversity and extinction 253
10.4. Reproductive failure and extinction 256
10.5. Population size and extinction 258
10.6. The clash of paradigms 260
10.7. Conclusions 264
References 265

11. Conservation Biology: Why Conserve Species?
José Luis Tellería
11.1. Introduction 269
11.2. A historical viewpoint 270
11.3. Approaches to conservation 271
11.4. Coarse-grain approach to conservation 273
11.5. Management indicators 274
11.6. Fine-grain conservation 275
11.7. Are all species necessary? 276
11.8. The ecological role of species 277
11.9. Singular and redundant species 279
11.10. Instrumental utility of species 281
11.11. In search of a pragmatic synthesis: landscape ecology 283
11.12. The territory as the unit of conservation management 284
11.13. Why conserve species? 286
Acknowledgments 288
References 288

12. To Be or not to Be (Seen); That is the Question. Crypsis, Aposematism and Mimicry in an Ecological and Evolutionary Context
Joandomènec Ros
12.1. Introduction 291
12.2. My doctoral thesis 292

12.3. What's new on adaptive colouration in opisthobranchs and its basis 299
12.3.1. Chemical defences of opisthobranchs 299
12.3.2. Universal nature of synaposematic circles 302
12.3.3. Parasymbiosis in sacoglossans 302
12.3.4. Parallelism between chemical and morphological evolution 306
12.4. Making the subjective more objective 307
12.5. Summary 309
Acknowledgments 310
References 310

13. Some Contributions of Capture-Recapture to Evolutionary Ecology and Population Modeling
Michael J. Conroy
13.1. Introduction 315
13.2. Historical advances 316
13.2.1. Separation of encounter from survival and other parameters the CJS model 316
13.2.2. Use of multiple alternative hypotheses and information theory 319
13.3. Recent advances 320
13.3.1. Modeling of environmental and individual covariates 320
13.3.2. Modeling of heterogeneity via random effects 326
13.3.3. Modeling of movement and state transition 326
13.3.4. Modeling the components of population growth 332
13.4. Extension of CR to modeling community dynamics 337
13.5. Other advances 339
13.5.1. Computer software 339
13.5.2. Bayesian modeling of random and hierarchical effects 340
13.5.3. Integrated parameter modeling 342
13.5.4. Innovative marking and recapture 342
13.5.5. Occupancy models 343
13.6. Summary 344
Acknowledgments 345
References 346

14. The Role of Behaviour in Ecology: Natural Selection on Individual Strategies and their Effects on Ecological Systems
Juan Carranza
14.1. What insight can ecology obtain by being *behavioural* 349
14.2. Behavioural ecology and modern ethology 351
14.3. Individual-behaviour approaches with ecological consequences 353
14.3.1. Levels of selection 353
14.3.2. Economic decisions of individuals 357
14.3.3. Game theory 360
14.3.4. Reproductive strategies and sexual selection 363
14.4. From ecosystem, physical approach to evolutionary approach 365
14.5. Summary 367
References 367

15. The Network Approach in Ecology
Miguel A. Fortuna and Jordi Bascompte
15.1. Introduction 371
15.1.1. Networks as complex systems 371
15.1.2. Network structure and implications for its dynamics 373
15.2. Insight from ecological networks 375
15.2.1. Food webs 376
15.2.2. Plant-animal mutualistic networks 379
15.2.3. Spatial networks 383
15.3. Unity in diversity: towards ecological networks 385
Acknowledgments 388
References 390

16. Internalization of Vertical Transport in Ecosystems: The Xylem of Woody Plants
Josep Piñol, Jordi Martínez-Vilalta, Lasse Loepfe and Maurizio Mencuccini
16.1. Introduction 393
16.2. Trees and vertical transport in ecosystems 394
16.3. The structure of the xylem 396
16.4. The ascent of sap and the cohesion-tension theory 398

16.5. Xylem embolism and the limits of the cohesion-tension mechanism 401
16.6. Ecological implications of xylem embolism 405
16.6.1. Case 1: drought resistance in conifers from Montana, USA 407
16.6.2. Case 2: embolism and drought resistance in *Quercus ilex* and *Phillyrea latifolia* 408
16.6.3. Case 3: drought resistance in *Pinus sylvestris* 409
16.7. The xylem as a complex network 412
16.8. The scaling of xylem transport: back to the ecosystem 416
16.9. Concluding remarks and prospects for future research 420
Acknowledgments 422
References 423

17. Toward an Ecosystem Theory
Sven Erik Jørgensen
17.1. Why an ecosystem theory? 427
17.2. The basic scientific results and ideas behind the presented ecosystem theory 429
17.3. The thermodynamic concept of eco-exergy 432
17.4. A tentative ecosystem theory consisting of ten basic laws 438
17.5. Discussion of the presented ecosystem theory 446
References 447

18. An Ecological Synthesis: Something Old, Something New
Manuel C. Molles
18.1. Introduction 449
18.2. The subdivisions of ecology 451
18.3. Something old: storytelling 453
18.4. How to tell the tale 456
18.5. Something new: digital storytelling 459
18.6. Promising signs 460
18.7. Summary 460
Acknowledgments 461
References 462

19. Unity in Diversity or Which Way Ecology?
Fernando Valladares, Antonio Camacho, Arturo Elosegi and Marta Estrada 463
19.1. Integrating concepts and ecological theory 465
19.2. Methodological approaches 468
19.3. Ecology and environmental problems 470
19.4. And now what? 473
Acknowledgments 475
References 476

List of Figures and Photos 479

List of Tables 487

Index 489

About the Authors 497