

standing of the overall problem. Solid wastes overdoes packaging and omits any of the more hazardous waste products. Even if this approach is energy oriented, a treatment of energy from wastes would have added much to the chapter. The land use chapter gives us a wide overview of agriculture and a little on fisheries and forestry.

The final chapter on locating government documents was somewhat disappointing. It really only

explains how the author and title can be found on Census Canada documents. The serious student, wishing to research further one of the areas in this report, would best follow the advice of the final paragraph "If you are still confused ask your librarian for help."

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Ecology and Field Biology

By Robert Leo Smith. 1980. 3rd edition. Harper & Row, New York. xii + 835 pp., illus. U.S. \$18.95.

This book is the most complete text available on field ecology. This edition is much like the second. However, additional information on ecosystem and evolutionary ecology and the elimination of information concerning human ecology are notable changes. Instead of heavy treatment of North America, other parts of the world are dealt with more often in this edition. Global paleoecology and zoogeography are also now treated. Although theoretical ecology is outlined the book deals more often with real-world ecology. Especially good discussions occur on aquatic ecology, biogeochemical cycles, C_3 v.s. C_4 plants, ecological succession, energy flow, global climatology and primary production, inversions, laws of tolerance, marine ecology, niche space, phenology, soil orders, and solar radiation spectra. The expanded appendices concerning statistical methods, population sampling, community productivity and structure,

and environmental measurements contain methodology that should be helpful to all field biologists. The journal list and the three bibliographies are expanded and updated. A glossary now appears with fairly good coverage. Many new illustrations appear and the index has better coverage of text subjects.

Typographical errors are still abundant. Words and even sentences are missing in many spots. References cited in the text are absent from the bibliographies.

Overall, Smith has done a good job covering information and/or concepts discovered since his previous edition (1974). Since much of this book's material is not found in other ecology texts, reading this book will provide a naturalist with the most up-to-date information available to us on basic ecology.

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A Reference Book of Urban Ecology

By Anne Innis Dagg. 1981. Otter Press, Waterloo, Ontario. 190 pp., illus. \$5.00.

Until recently, urban areas were considered to be biologically barren and rather uninteresting systems to study. However, interest in urban ecology has risen dramatically in the last few years with the realization that increasingly large numbers of people are living or working in urban areas and that the adverse environmental conditions in cities may be affecting the health of its inhabitants. This modest-looking book by Canadian biologist Anne Innis Dagg and illustrated by Harry Warr neatly summarizes recent knowledge of urban ecology with examples drawn, where possible, from Canadian cities. This national viewpoint is particularly timely in that three-quarters of Canadians

currently live in cities and most of us are probably not particularly well-informed about the many ecological peculiarities of urban areas.

The first section provides considerable basic information on the physical and biotic properties that contribute to making urban areas ecologically unique habitats. Included is an account of the subtle and not-so-subtle differences between urban and rural climates. One of the main accomplishments of this book is its celebration of the wealth of wildlife that can be discovered in urban and suburban areas with a little extra effort. The author notes that urban wildlife are usually quite adaptable species and suggests that the key to attracting them is the type of varied habitat that can be achieved through well-planned city parks and



Zammuto, Richard M. 1982. "Ecology and field biology, by Robert Leo Smith [Review]." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 96(2), 239–239.

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