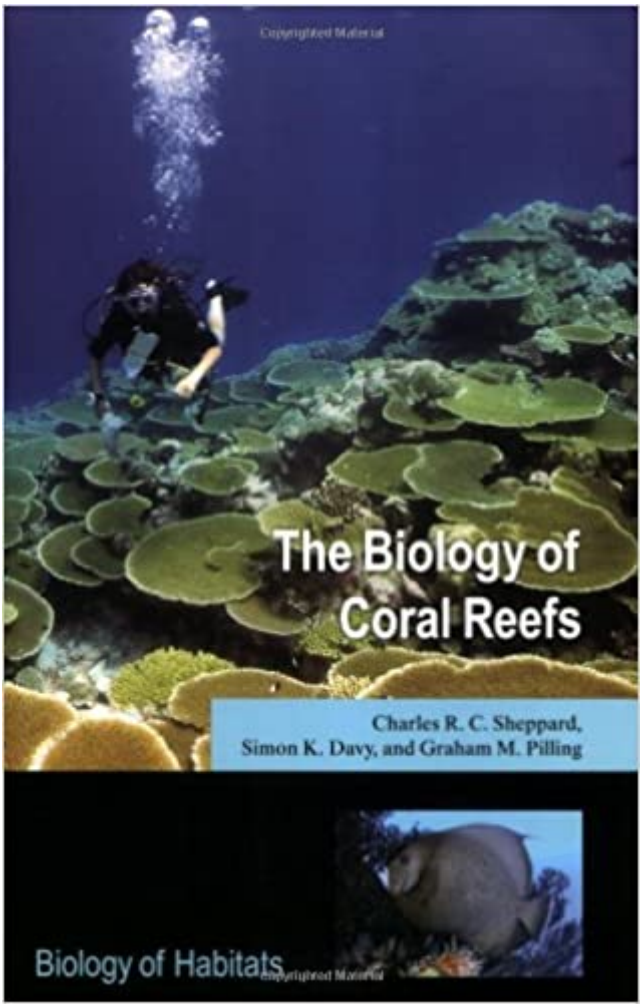
The Biology Of Coral Reefs (Biology Of Habitats Series)



Synopsis

Coral reefs represent the most spectacular and diverse marine ecosystem on the planet as well as a critical source of income for millions of people. However, the combined effects of human activity have led to a rapid decline in the health of reefs worldwide, with many now facing complete destruction. This timely book provides an integrated overview of the function, physiology, ecology, and behaviour of coral reef organisms. Each chapter is enriched with a selection of 'boxes' on specific aspects written by internationally recognised experts. As with other books in the Biology of Habitats Series, the emphasis in this book is on the organisms that dominate this marine environment although pollution, conservation, climate change, and experimental aspects are also included. Indeed, particular emphasis is placed on conservation and management due to the habitat's critically endangered status. A global range of examples is employed which gives the book international relevance. This accessible text is intended for students, naturalists and professionals and assumes no previous knowledge of coral reef biology. It is particularly suitable for both senior undergraduate and graduate students (in departments of biology, geography, and environmental science) taking courses in coral reef ecology, marine biology, oceanography and conservation biology, as well as the many professional ecologists and conservation biologists requiring a concise overview of the topic. It is also of relevance and use to reef managers, recreational divers, and amateur naturalists.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Highly recommended. This work, the latest installment in Oxford's "Biology of Habitats" series, meets the high standards demonstrated by the preceding works in the series. Competent, current and concise...everyone will find something new or better explained here."--Choice"The Biology of Coral Reefs is a must for coral reef biologists." -- Marine Biology Research

Prof Charles Sheppard has spent 35 years researching the ecology of coral reefs and their role in supporting coastal communities. He is interested especially in effects of pollution and climate change on tropical marine systems, and has been Editor of the scientific journal Marine Pollution Bulletin for 15 years. Dr. Simon Davy is a specialist in the fields of coral-algal symbiosis and coral disease. He studied for his PhD at Bangor University. He then conducted postdoctoral research at the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution in Florida and the University of Sydney, before holding faculty positions at the University of Plymouth and now Victoria University of Wellington. Dr Graham Pilling has considerable practical experience in tropical and coral reef ecosystems. He has gained in depth experience in the practical assessment and management of coral reef fisheries in the Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf. His recent work has focused on the implications of climate change for coral reef ecosystem services.

I've taken or served as teaching assistant for a number of classes on coral reef ecology, and we've never had a good, comprehensive textbook that was suitable for undergraduate students. I was excited to see this book this year, particularly since it appeared just before I taught my own undergraduate class on "Ecology of Reefs, Mangroves, and Seagrasses". We've read a number of the chapters on coral reefs, corals, and human impacts. I do wish there was more information on the organisms of the coral reef - algae, invertebrates, mammals & reptiles, as I had to find other sources for that. However, it is well-organized information, clear, and very up-to-date. I would use it as a textbook if/when I teach the class again and recommend the series to others teaching about the biology of habitats. We also used Hogarth's (2007) book in the series on mangroves & seagrasses.

This is a well written introduction to coral reef biology, potentially useful for both a senior-undergraduate course or any diver wishing to learn more about the coral reefs she is hovering above.The book treats many aspects of reefs, from the main reef builders, the abiotic environment, reef microbiology and the world of coral reef fishes. Most figures are black/white, but the book also contains some color plates. It goes into a good amount of detail, and covers some

very recent scientific studies, but at the same time is written in a readable style. Often text boxes cover special topics, such as the crown-of-thorns starfish.What I really appreciated is the significant part dedicated to conservation issues and the damage done to reefs by everything from overfishing, the creating of artificial islands, sewage run-off, to global warming and ocean acidification. When treating these subjects, the authors don't fall into the all-is-lost mode, but also outline how intelligent decisions by humans can make a big difference in reef health.

really enjoyed this

The Biology of Coral Reefs is an excellent reference/textbook for scientifically minded people to delve further into the reefs. It is a must read for anyone who is interested in the education and preservation of one of the world's most beautiful, economically, and ecologically important resources.

Im a biology student and study corals. I found this book great as an introduction to the subject and a quick guide for remembering the basics. So is very useful for students of these ecosystems and for amateurs. Reading the book gives you the knowledge to understand more specific documents like papers later.

The book was in very good condition. The edition matched the one on the description. Very satisfied.

as expected.

I received the book in the mail and it is in great condition for the class that I am taking. There are a few highlighter marks in it, but I plan on adding onto that anyway. The book is great!

Habitats Series) Peterson Field Guide(R) to Coral Reefs of the Caribbean & Florida (Peterson Field Guide Series) A Field Guide to Coral Reefs of the Caribbean and Florida Including Bermuda and the Bahamas (The Peterson Field Guide Series) Encyclopedia of Modern Coral Reefs: Structure, Form and Process (Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences Series) Science Comics: Coral Reefs: Cities of the Ocean Coral Reefs Coral Reefs: A Journey Through an Aquatic World Full of Wonder National Geographic Readers: Coral Reefs Pacific: Silicon Chips and Surfboards, Coral Reefs and Atom Bombs, Brutal Dictators, Fading Empires, and the Coming Collision of the World's Superpowers Six Months in the Sandwich Islands: Among Hawaii's Palm Groves, Coral Reefs, and Volcanoes Coral Reefs in the Microbial Seas Coral Reefs: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions) A Field Guide to Coral Reefs: Caribbean and Florida (Peterson Field Guides)