



Biodiversity in Dead Wood (Ecology, Biodiversity and Conservation)

By Jogeir N. Stokland, Juha Siitonen, Bengt Gunnar Jonsson

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Fossils document the existence of trees and wood-associated organisms from almost 400 million years ago, and today there are between 400,000 and 1 million wood-inhabiting species in the world. This is the first book to synthesise the natural history and conservation needs of wood-inhabiting organisms. Presenting a thorough introduction to biodiversity in decaying wood, the book studies the rich diversity of fungi, insects and vertebrates that depend upon dead wood. It describes the functional diversity of these organisms and their specific habitat requirements in terms of host trees, decay phases, tree dimensions, microhabitats and the surrounding environment. Recognising the threats posed by timber extraction and forest management, the authors also present management options for protecting and maintaining the diversity of these species in forests as well as in agricultural landscapes and urban parks.

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Editorial Review

Review

"... it will serve as a key reference for many years. As an addition to the prestigious, authoritative "Ecology, Biodiversity, and Conservation" series, this eminently scientific treatment will inform pure and applied advanced students of wood biodiversity. With over 80 pages of references, it will serve as an up-to-date bibliography of saproxylic species and related literature. Highly recommended."

D.L. Richter, Choice Magazine

"... the first ever whole book to attempt an introductory synthesis of all that is known about the wildlife associated with decaying wood ... I discovered [I was] finding things previously unfamiliar to me in every chapter. A great strength is the combination of mycology and entomology ..."

British Journal of Entomology and Natural History

About the Author

Jogeir N. Stokland is a researcher at the Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute and an associate professor at the University of Oslo, Norway. He has conducted research on forest biodiversity, dead wood dynamics and species diversity in decaying wood for more than 20 years. His expertise covers both entomology and mycology.

Juha Siitonen is a researcher at the Finnish Forest Research Institute. He has conducted research on the effects of forest management on dead wood and saproxylic species, including beetles and polypores, for more than 20 years. He is a member of the Finnish beetle working group, and has been involved in the red-list assessments of Finnish fauna.

Bengt Gunnar Jonsson is a professor of Plant Ecology at Mid Sweden University. His research focuses on forest history and dynamics and its role in maintaining forest biodiversity. He has played an active role in several national conservation projects initiated by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the Swedish Forest Agency.

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