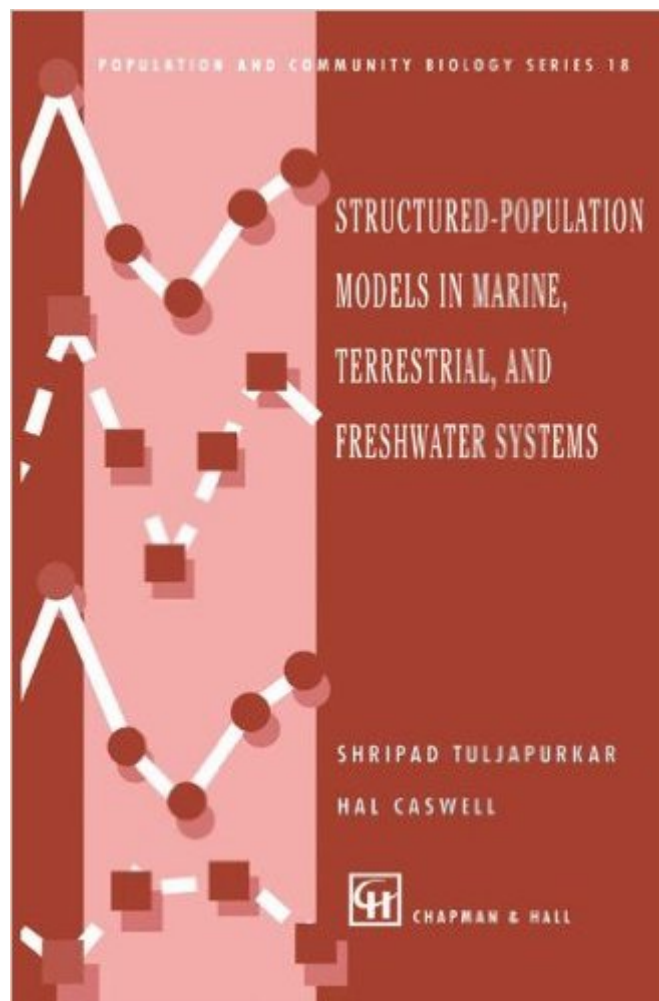


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Structured-Population Models In Marine, Terrestrial, And Freshwater Systems (Population And Community Biology Series)



Synopsis

In the summer of 1993, twenty-six graduate and postdoctoral students and fourteen lecturers converged on Cornell University for a summer school devoted to structured-population models. This school was one of a series to address concepts cutting across the traditional boundaries separating terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecology. Earlier schools resulted in the books *Patch Dynamics* (S. A. Levin, T. M. Powell & J. H. Steele, eds., Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1993) and *Ecological Time Series* (T. M. Powell & J. H. Steele, eds., Chapman and Hall, New York, 1995); a book on food webs is in preparation. Models of population structure (differences among individuals due to age, size, developmental stage, spatial location, or genotype) have an important place in studies of all three kinds of ecosystem. In choosing the participants and lecturers for the school, we selected for diversity—biologists who knew some mathematics and mathematicians who knew some biology, field biologists sobered by encounters with messy data and theoreticians intoxicated by the elegance of the underlying mathematics, people concerned with long-term evolutionary problems and people concerned with the acute crises of conservation biology. For four weeks, these perspectives swirled in discussions that started in the lecture hall and carried on into the sweltering Ithaca night. Diversity may or may not increase stability, but it surely makes things interesting.

Book Information

Series: Population and Community Biology Series (Book 18)

Paperback: 656 pages

Publisher: Springer; Softcover reprint of the original 1st ed. 1997 edition (October 4, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0412072718

ISBN-13: 978-0412072710

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.5 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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