



Oak Forest Ecosystems: Ecology and Management for Wildlife

By -

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1.2in. Oak Forest Ecosystems focuses on the relationship between an oak forests acorn yield and species of wildlife that depend on it. It begins by treating factors such as oak distribution, forest fires, tree diseases and pests, dynamics of acorn production, and acorn dispersal by birds and mammals. Special consideration is given to the phenomenon of mastings whereby oaks in a given area will produce huge crops of acorns at irregular intervals a key component for wildlife researchers and managers in understanding patterns of scarcity and abundance in the creatures that feed on this crop. Relationships between oaks and animals such as mice, squirrels, turkeys, deer, and bear are discussed, as are the differences between eastern, southern Appalachian, southwestern, and California oak forests.

Contributors: Marc D. Abrams, Pennsylvania State University Patrick H. Brose, U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service John P. Buonaccorsi, University of Massachusetts Daniel Dey, U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service Joseph S. Elkinton, University of Massachusetts George A. Feldhamer, Southern Illinois University Peter F. Folliott, University of Arizona Lee E. Frelich, University of Minnesota Cathryn H. Greenberg, U. S. Department of Agriculture...



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