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Plant Canopies: Their Growth, Form and Function

By -

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*****. This volume is a synthesis of current knowledge about the

growth, development and functioning of plant canopies. The

term canopy is taken to include not only the upper surface of

woodland, as in the original definition, but also analogous

surfaces of other plant communities. Although much research

has been carried out on single leaves, canopies are much more

than just a collection of individual leaves, and so exhibit

properties of their own. It can be argued that it is primarily at

the canopy rather than the leaf level that solutions to many

practical problems about the growth of plants in the field can

be found. In this volume, canopy properties are considered in

terms of the processes, such as transpiration and

photosynthesis, by which the canopy and its environment

interact. Topics discussed include the meaning of canopy

structure, interception of solar radiation, exchange processes,

nitrogen nutrition, leaf demography and heliotropism. Key

principles are illustrated by examples from a wide range of

plant community types and geographical locations. This book

will be of interest to...



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