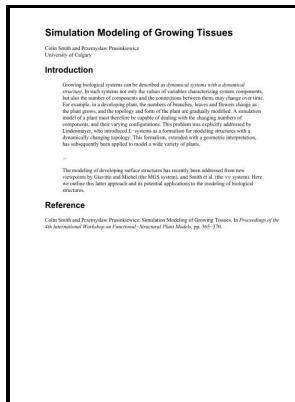


Botany - a functional approach

Macmillan - Botany: A Functional Approach by Muller, W H



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Botany: A Functional Approach by Muller, W H

Carefully designed comparative studies are required to tease apart these different scenarios, which may vary with species and environment ;. Overall, the functional trait framework developed in this paper can improve management decision making because it links concepts of functional trait variation, plasticity and demography to advance understanding and prediction of invasive plant impacts.

Botany; a Functional Approach [By] Walter H. Muller. Selected Illus. By...

Perhaps the most commonly reported soft trait is leaf mass per unit area LMA or its inverse, SLA, which correlates with RGR , photosynthetic rate , leaf nitrogen N content and leaf lifespan , and is thought to be the most useful single indicator of leaf strategy i. We then suggest a functional trait framework for assessing per capita effects and, ultimately, impacts of invasive plants on plant communities and ecosystems. Theory predicts that the genetic bottleneck caused by this colonization process limits a species' phenotypic options and therefore the potential for evolution by natural selection.

Botany: A Functional Approach by Muller, W H

Interpreting the role of functional traits naturally leads into a discussion of how plasticity in these traits may lead to rapid evolution and invader success in changing environments.

functional trait perspective on plant invasion

Functional traits have been viewed and defined in various ways.

functional trait perspective on plant invasion

For N cycling, we must understand how rapidly decomposing leaves may lead to growth inhibition of native species. Some researchers propose that the use of the term be restricted to attributes of individual plants without reference to the environment or other levels of ecological organization.

functional trait perspective on plant invasion

Therefore, analyses of transient dynamics may be important for invasive plants and may sometimes provide a quantitatively different view from traditional sensitivity analyses. In order to scale up from organismal-level traits, research must move beyond the consideration of how single species or traits are influenced by changing environmental conditions; instead, changes in abundance and impacts must be summed across the community as a whole. Continued development of this approach and assessment of how traits yield impact across multiple-scales is critical as environmental change forces managers to deal with shifts in species ranges and plant assembly in novel ecosystems.

functional trait perspective on plant invasion

Historically, there has been vigorous debate on whether to seed these landscapes with introduced species that have a high probability of establishing and preventing spread of invasive species or seeding landscapes with native species that have a low probability of establishing and preventing spread of invasive species. Traits associated with more rapid decomposition e. Because epigenetic changes can be elicited by environmental factors and are stably inherited, they supply a potentially rapid mechanism for the inheritance of plastic responses ; ,.

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