

# Seeds

The Ecology of Regeneration in Plant Communities

3rd Edition

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## The Ecology of Regeneration in Plant Communities 3rd Edition

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*Edited by*

**Robert S. Gallagher**

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CABI  
Nosworthy Way  
Wallingford  
Oxfordshire OX10 8DE  
UK

CABI  
38 Chauncey Street  
Suite 1002  
Boston, MA 02111  
USA

Tel: +44 (0)1491 832111  
Fax: +44 (0)1491 833508  
E-mail: [info@cabi.org](mailto:info@cabi.org)  
Website: [www.cabi.org](http://www.cabi.org)

Tel: +1 800 552 3083 (toll free)  
Tel: +1 (0)617 395 4051  
E-mail: [cabi-nao@cabi.org](mailto:cabi-nao@cabi.org)

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# Contributors

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**J. Derek Bewley**, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada. E-mail: dbewley@uoguelph.ca

**Mark B. Burnham**, Department of Biology, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506, USA. E-mail: mburnha1@mix.wvu.edu

**Nathalie Colbach**, INRA, UMR1347 Agroécologie, EcolDur, BP 86510, 21000 Dijon, France. E-mail: nathalie.colbach@dijon.inra.fr

**Michael J. Crawley**, Department of Biology, Imperial College London, Silwood Park, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 7PY, UK. E-mail: m.crawley@imperial.ac.uk

**E. Patrick Fuerst**, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164, USA. E-mail: pfuerst@wsu.edu

**Robert S. Gallagher**, Independent agricultural consultant, 202 Maple Street, Clinton, SC 29324, USA. E-mail: rsgallagher61@gmail.com

**Kristen L. Granger**, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16801, USA. E-mail: kgranger1@gmail.com

**Ruben Heleno**, Centre for Functional Ecology (CEF-UC), Department of Life Sciences, University of Coimbra, PO Box 3046, 3001-401 Coimbra, Portugal. E-mail: rheleno@uc.pt

**Henk W.M. Hilhorst**, Wageningen Seed Lab, Laboratory of Plant Physiology, Wageningen University, Wageningen, the Netherlands. E-mail: henk.hilhorst@wur.nl

**Pedro Jordano**, Integrative Ecology Group, Estación Biológica de Doñana, ~~VEDD CSIC~~ Avda. Americo Vespucio S/N, Isla de La Cartuja, E-41092 Sevilla, Spain. E-mail: jordano@ebd.csic.es

**Alistair J. Murdoch**, School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, University of Reading, Earley Gate, PO Box 237, Reading, Berkshire RG6 6AR, UK. E-mail: a.j.murdoch@reading.ac.uk

**Manuel Nogales**, Island Ecology and Evolution Research Group (CSIC-IPNA), 38206 La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain. E-mail: mnogales@ipna.csic.es

**Thijs L. Pons**, Department of Plant Ecophysiology, Institute of Environmental Biology, Utrecht University, Padualaan 8, 3508 CH Utrecht, the Netherlands. E-mail: t.l.pons@uu.nl

**Peter Poschlod**, LS Biologie VIII, Universität Regensburg, Universitätsstraße 31, 93040 Regensburg, Germany. E-mail: peter.poschlod@biologie.uni-regensburg.de

**Arne Saatkamp**, Institut Méditerranéen de Biodiversité et d'Ecologie (IMBE UMR CNRS 7263), Université d'Aix-Marseille, Faculté St Jérôme case 421, 13397 Marseille cedex 20, France. E-mail: arne.saatkamp@imbe.fr

CSIC-EBD

**Elwira Sliwinska**, Department of Plant Genetics and Biotechnology, University of Technology and Life Sciences, Bydgoszcz, Poland. E-mail: [elwira@utp.edu.pl](mailto:elwira@utp.edu.pl)

**Anna Traveset**, Mediterranean Institute of Advanced Studies (CSIC-UIB), Terrestrial Ecology Group, 07190 Esporles, Mallorca, Balearic Islands, Spain. E-mail: [atraveset@imedea.uib-csic.es](mailto:atraveset@imedea.uib-csic.es)

**D. Lawrence Venable**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA. E-mail: [venable@u.arizona.edu](mailto:venable@u.arizona.edu)

**Rui Zhang**, Harvard Forest, Harvard University, 324 N Main St., Petersham, MA 01366, USA. E-mail: [ruizhang0410@gmail.com](mailto:ruizhang0410@gmail.com)



# Preface

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CABI and I are pleased to offer the third edition of *Seeds: The Ecology of Regeneration in Plant Communities* building on the first two outstanding editions by Michael Fenner in 1992 and 2000. It was an honour to serve as the editor for this edition, as the first two editions played an important role in shaping my thinking and study of seed banks and seed ecology/physiology during my graduate studies and the early stages of my academic career. As in the previous editions, the goal of this edition is to provide a detailed overview of seed ecophysiology and its role shaping plant communities.

In this edition, I encouraged many of the contributors of previous editions to also contribute here. As such, I am pleased to see updated return contributions on frugivory (Chapter 2), seed dispersal (Chapter 3), seed predation (Chapter 4), light-mediated germination responses (Chapter 5), chemical regulation of germination (Chapter 6) and seed dormancy (Chapter 7). New chapter contributions with a mechanistic emphasis include an overview of seed development, anatomy and morphology (Chapter 1), and the chemical ecology of seed persistence (Chapter 8). New chapter contributions that have more of a synthesis emphasis cover the implications of climate change on the regeneration by seeds (Chapter 9) and the functional role of seed banks in agricultural (Chapter 10) and natural (Chapter 11) ecosystems. In all, 19 authors have contributed to this edition, with a mix of well-established and emerging young scientists.

As editor, I tried to give the contributing authors considerable creative and intellectual licence. As such, the chapters are not stylistically identical. I have also tried to provide a good level of continuity between the chapters, adding notes to link overlapping concepts and subject matter among the chapters. In the end, however, each chapter represents the thinking of the contributing authors and not this editor.

I was very pleased with how thoroughly the contributing authors integrated the more classic foundation literature with that more recently published. As such, I hope this book will serve as a highly comprehensive review resource for new students of seed ecology and plant community regeneration, as well as an update for the more seasoned and experienced scientists.

**Robert S. Gallagher**

**Author Query:**

[AU 1]: Please advise what, if any, affiliation you would like on the title page.