
Ecology of rain forests on a large tropical island: lessons from New Guinea

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Abstract

How tropical rainforests maintain their high biological diversity and how they regenerate after disturbance are two key, and related, questions of tropical ecology. I will explore these questions in the ecosystems of New Guinea, looking at the balance of bottom-up and top-down effects on biodiversity in rainforest food webs, and the dynamics of these effects along succession and elevation ecological gradients.

Keywords: rainforest, biodiversity, food web, New Guinea

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