

creased understanding of model selection and interpretation. In the next part of the book, Grace introduces more complicated topics, including the use of composite variables, multigroup analyses, categorical variables, nonlinearity, and latent growth models.

Unfortunately, these topics are given only a brief overview and it is a shame that these and other complexities relevant to ecology (e.g., raw data methods) are not considered in greater detail. The next few chapters continue the applied theme of the book by describing several examples of SEM in ecological research, including a very nice chapter on “cautions and recommendations” that practitioners will find useful when interpreting the results from their own analyses. Finally, Grace concludes with two nice chapters that provide an overview of SEM and discuss some exciting future directions in the field. One area that should be included in subsequent editions of the book is a thorough discussion of commercially and freely available SEM software. Some software packages involve complicated syntax and less than user-friendly interfaces. Newcomers to SEM are likely to find the choice of software package daunting. Additionally, some of the examples in the text could be augmented with code, or this information could be included in an Appendix. If I were an ecologist new to the field, would I come away with a basic understanding of SEM principles, an ability to design structural equation models, and interpret the results of such analyses? Most certainly. Would I be able to easily program and perform the analyses myself? Perhaps not.

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KEY TOPICS IN LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY. *Cambridge Studies in Landscape Ecology.*

Edited by Jianguo Wu and Richard J Hobbs. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press. \$135.00 (hardcover); \$65.00 (paper). xv + 297 p; ill.; index. ISBN: 978-0-521-85094-0 (hc); 978-0-521-61644-7 (pb). 2007.

Landscape ecology remains a vibrant new discipline in search of itself. Is landscape ecology a subdiscipline of ecological science? A transdisciplinary approach to sustainable land management? As this book makes clear, landscape ecologists are still actively discussing what the discipline actually is, in part because of its enthusiastic embrace by an extraordinarily wide range of practitioners, from theoretical ecologists to conservationists and urban planners.

This book presents a “collective view of the state-of-the-science of landscape ecology” (p xiv) and its future directions based on a symposium at the

2003 World Congress of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE), building on a longer-term effort initiated in an IALE symposium in 2001. The volume comprises peer-reviewed chapters by different contributors who discuss specific challenges in advancing landscape ecology, and is framed by introductory and concluding chapters that discuss general challenges facing the discipline in its growth to maturity. Chapters on data availability (mostly from remote sensing), metapopulations, scaling, and the definition of integrative research are especially well-developed and useful contributions. Although the final chapter attempts to unify landscape ecology within a hierarchical and pluralistic framework, this succeeds mostly in portraying the diversity of ideas and practices associated with landscape ecology in text and in a figure. Definition of landscape ecology as a scientific discipline complete with a set of core values and research foci, if this is indeed possible, must await future efforts.

Existing practitioners of landscape ecology will find this to be an essential summary of the state of the science. The book will also benefit graduate students and others beginning to make their way into this discipline. Essential background on key subjects in landscape ecology is backed by solid literature reviews, all of which are well indexed, making them an excellent and timely reference. The volume will be especially helpful to anyone who is searching for novel research topics and is interested in solving some of the basic unsolved problems in landscape ecology. This book focuses primarily on problems without current solutions.

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BIOLOGICAL GLOBALISATION: BIO-INVASIONS AND THEIR IMPACTS ON NATURE, THE ECONOMY AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

By Wouter van der Weijden, Rob Leeuwis, and Pieter Bol; translated by Jorrit van Hertum and Derek Middleton. Zeist (The Netherlands): KNNV Publishing. €49.95 (paper). 223 p; ill.; index. ISBN: 978-90-5011-234-7. 2007.

Over the last 20 years, biological invasions have been recognized as a serious threat to the integrity of ecosystems. Numerous books have been written about their biology, management, social implications, and other subjects. It is hard to imagine that yet another volume would be interesting and fresh, but the authors—two biologists and a medical epidemiologist with a background in history—have produced a book that will stay on my shelf.

The most novel aspect of this work is the inclusion of public health. Not only are cane toads and