

nys biodiversity lab

nys biodiversity lab is a leading educational resource designed to help students and educators explore the rich tapestry of life found throughout New York State. This comprehensive lab experience delves into the principles of biodiversity, the variety of life forms, and their ecological roles within New York's diverse habitats. In this article, you'll discover what the NYS Biodiversity Lab is, its core objectives, detailed activities, curriculum alignment, and the essential skills it fosters. We'll also examine the significance of biodiversity in the state, the lab's hands-on approach, and strategies for maximizing learning outcomes. Whether you're an educator planning to use the NYS Biodiversity Lab or a student eager to understand its importance, this guide will provide valuable insights and practical tips for success. Dive in to unlock the secrets behind one of New York's most engaging science education tools.

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Overview of the NYS Biodiversity Lab

The NYS Biodiversity Lab is an essential component of science curricula across New York State, aimed at fostering a deep understanding of biodiversity. The lab explores the complex variety of organisms—ranging from microorganisms to plants and animals—found within different ecosystems. Through a mix of observation, data analysis, and hands-on experiments, learners investigate the patterns, processes, and significance of biodiversity. The lab is designed to be accessible for middle and high school students, aligning with state science standards and promoting inquiry-based learning.

NYS Biodiversity Lab modules often utilize real-world data, authentic specimens, and simulated environments to illustrate key ecological concepts. The lab encourages students to think critically about conservation, the impact of human activity, and the interconnectedness of living things. Its comprehensive structure makes it a valuable teaching tool for both classroom and remote learning settings.

The Importance of Biodiversity in New York State

New York State is home to a remarkable range of ecosystems, from Adirondack forests and Catskill mountains to the Hudson River estuary and Long Island Sound. The NYS Biodiversity Lab highlights the significance of this diversity, emphasizing why it matters to both the environment and human well-being. Biodiversity supports ecosystem services such as clean air, water purification, pollination, and climate regulation—vital to maintaining a healthy, sustainable state.

The lab also sheds light on threats to biodiversity, including habitat loss, pollution, invasive species, and climate change. Understanding these challenges is crucial for fostering stewardship and inspiring students to consider solutions that protect New York's natural heritage for future generations.

Key Learning Objectives of the NYS Biodiversity Lab

The NYS Biodiversity Lab is designed with clear educational goals to ensure students grasp essential scientific principles while developing practical skills. The main objectives include:

- Understanding the definition and levels of biodiversity (genetic, species, ecosystem diversity)
- Recognizing the ecological and economic value of biodiversity in New York State
- Exploring methods used by scientists to measure and monitor biodiversity
- Analyzing the effects of environmental changes and human activities on biodiversity
- Developing data collection, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills

These objectives ensure students not only acquire knowledge but also appreciate the significance of biodiversity in their local and global communities.

Structure and Activities of the Lab

The NYS Biodiversity Lab is structured to provide a dynamic, interactive learning experience. It typically consists of multiple activities that guide students through different aspects of biodiversity, from observation and identification to analysis and synthesis.

Sample Activities in the NYS Biodiversity Lab

A variety of hands-on and inquiry-based tasks are incorporated to enrich student understanding:

- Collecting and identifying local plant and animal species using field guides or digital resources

- Comparing biodiversity levels in different habitats (e.g., forests vs. wetlands)
- Constructing and interpreting biodiversity indices such as species richness and evenness
- Analyzing case studies involving endangered or invasive species in New York
- Using data sets to create graphs and draw conclusions about ecosystem health

These activities encourage teamwork, independent thinking, and real-world application of scientific concepts.

Lab Equipment and Materials

To conduct the NYS Biodiversity Lab, students and educators may use:

- Microscopes and hand lenses
- Dissection kits and specimen trays
- Field guides and identification keys
- Data sheets, graph paper, and calculators
- Computer software for data analysis (optional)

The lab is designed to be flexible, allowing adaptation to different school resources and environments.

Curriculum Connections and Standards

The NYS Biodiversity Lab is closely aligned with New York State science learning standards, including the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). By participating in the lab, students demonstrate proficiency in key science practices such as asking questions, developing models, planning investigations, analyzing data, and constructing explanations.

Content covered in the NYS Biodiversity Lab directly supports units on Ecology, Living Environment, and Environmental Science. The lab reinforces crosscutting concepts like systems thinking, patterns, and cause and effect, ensuring a well-rounded science education.

Skills Developed Through the NYS Biodiversity Lab

Beyond content knowledge, the NYS Biodiversity Lab emphasizes the development of essential scientific and life skills. Students gain experience in:

- Conducting fieldwork and laboratory investigations
- Accurately observing and recording data
- Applying statistical methods to biological data
- Collaborating with peers to solve problems
- Communicating scientific findings effectively
- Making informed decisions about conservation and environmental stewardship

These skills prepare students not only for academic success but also for responsible citizenship in an increasingly complex world.

Tips for Success and Best Practices

To maximize the educational impact of the NYS Biodiversity Lab, educators and students should consider several best practices:

- Review background information on New York ecosystems before starting the lab
- Encourage curiosity by asking open-ended questions during activities
- Utilize a variety of resources, including digital databases and local experts
- Emphasize the importance of careful observation and accurate data recording
- Promote discussion and reflection after each activity to reinforce learning
- Adapt activities to local environments for relevancy and engagement
- Integrate technology to enhance data analysis and visualization

By following these strategies, both teachers and students can achieve deeper understanding and appreciation for biodiversity in New York State.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the NYS Biodiversity Lab?

A: The NYS Biodiversity Lab is an educational science module designed to help students explore and understand the variety of living organisms and ecosystems found across New York State. It emphasizes hands-on activities, data analysis, and real-world applications to promote ecological literacy.

Q: Why is biodiversity important in New York State?

A: Biodiversity is crucial because it supports ecosystem health, provides essential services like water purification and pollination, and contributes to economic and recreational opportunities. New York's diverse habitats make it a unique region for studying and preserving biodiversity.

Q: What topics are covered in the NYS Biodiversity Lab?

A: The lab covers topics such as ecosystem diversity, species identification, measuring biodiversity, impacts of human activity, conservation efforts, and the role of invasive species in New York State.

Q: How does the NYS Biodiversity Lab align with science standards?

A: The lab aligns with New York State science learning standards and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), focusing on scientific inquiry, data analysis, systems thinking, and environmental stewardship.

Q: What materials are needed to complete the NYS Biodiversity Lab?

A: Common materials include microscopes, hand lenses, specimen trays, field guides, data sheets, and optionally, computer software for data analysis. The lab is designed to be flexible and can be adapted to different school environments.

Q: Can the NYS Biodiversity Lab be done outdoors?

A: Yes, many activities in the NYS Biodiversity Lab involve fieldwork and outdoor exploration, allowing students to collect data and observe biodiversity in local habitats.

Q: What skills do students develop in the NYS Biodiversity Lab?

A: Students develop scientific investigation, data collection, critical thinking, teamwork, and effective communication skills. They also gain a deeper appreciation for environmental conservation.

Q: Is the NYS Biodiversity Lab suitable for all grade levels?

A: The lab is primarily designed for middle and high school students but can be adapted for different age groups with modifications to activities and complexity.

Q: How can teachers enhance the NYS Biodiversity Lab experience?

A: Teachers can enhance the experience by incorporating local case studies, inviting guest speakers, integrating technology, and encouraging student-led inquiry projects.

Q: What are common challenges in the NYS Biodiversity Lab and how can they be addressed?

A: Common challenges include limited access to field sites, variable weather, and time constraints. These can be addressed by using virtual resources, planning indoor alternatives, and focusing on data analysis when outdoor activities are not possible.

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Unveiling the Secrets of the NYS Biodiversity Lab: A Deep Dive into New York's Natural Treasures

New York State boasts an incredible array of biodiversity, from the bustling urban parks of New York City to the vast Adirondack wilderness. Understanding and protecting this rich natural heritage is crucial, and at the forefront of this effort lies the often-unsung hero: the NYS Biodiversity Lab. This comprehensive guide delves into the fascinating work of this vital institution, exploring its mission, research, resources, and the significant impact it has on New York's ecological future. We'll uncover the hidden depths of its collections, the cutting-edge research it conducts, and how you can get involved in supporting its crucial mission.

Understanding the NYS Biodiversity Research Institute: Mission and Scope

The New York State Biodiversity Research Institute (while not formally titled "NYS Biodiversity Lab," the term is commonly used and understood to refer to this research institute and its associated efforts) isn't a single physical location, but rather a network of researchers, collections, and initiatives dedicated to understanding and preserving New York's biodiversity. Its mission is multifaceted, encompassing:

Inventorying and Monitoring Biodiversity: The institute meticulously documents the state's plant and animal life, tracking changes over time to understand the impacts of environmental pressures like climate change and habitat loss. This involves extensive fieldwork, data analysis, and the development of robust databases.

Researching Ecosystem Dynamics: The institute conducts cutting-edge research on a wide range of topics, including species interactions, ecosystem health, and the impact of human activities on the environment. This research informs conservation strategies and helps policymakers make informed decisions.

Providing Educational Resources: Beyond its research, the institute plays a crucial role in educating the public about the importance of biodiversity and the threats it faces. This includes public outreach programs, educational materials, and collaborations with schools and universities.

Supporting Conservation Efforts: The data and research generated by the institute are invaluable for conservation efforts throughout New York State. This includes informing the development of protected areas, habitat restoration projects, and species recovery programs.

The Heart of the Matter: Key Collections and Databases

A significant aspect of the NYS Biodiversity Research Institute's work centers around its extensive collections and databases. These serve as invaluable resources for researchers, conservationists, and the public alike. Some key components include:

Herbarium Collections: These meticulously preserved plant specimens provide a historical record of plant diversity in New York, allowing researchers to track changes in species distribution and abundance over time.

Insect Collections: The institute houses an extensive collection of insect specimens, offering crucial insights into the diversity and ecology of insect communities in the state.

Zoological Collections: Similarly, the collections of animal specimens provide valuable data for understanding animal biodiversity, distribution, and population dynamics.

Digital Databases: The institute is increasingly reliant on digital databases to manage and share its vast collections of data. These databases allow researchers from around the world to access and analyze information on New York's biodiversity.

Cutting-Edge Research at the NYS Biodiversity Lab

The research undertaken at the NYS Biodiversity Research Institute is at the forefront of ecological studies. Current research areas often include:

Climate Change Impacts: Researchers are investigating how climate change is affecting the distribution and abundance of species in New York, informing adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Invasive Species Management: The institute studies the spread and impact of invasive species, developing strategies to control their populations and minimize their ecological

damage.

Habitat Restoration: Researchers are involved in projects aimed at restoring degraded habitats, enhancing biodiversity, and improving ecosystem function.

How to Get Involved and Support the NYS Biodiversity Lab

The work of the NYS Biodiversity Research Institute relies on the support of individuals, organizations, and government agencies. Here are several ways you can contribute:

Volunteer for Citizen Science Projects: Participate in data collection efforts by contributing to ongoing monitoring projects.

Donate to Support Research: Financial contributions directly support research initiatives and the maintenance of invaluable collections.

Advocate for Biodiversity Conservation: Support policies and initiatives that protect biodiversity and promote sustainable practices.

Conclusion

The New York State Biodiversity Research Institute plays a critical role in understanding and protecting the state's remarkable biodiversity. Its commitment to research, data collection, and public education is essential for ensuring the long-term health of New York's ecosystems. By supporting the institute's efforts, we can all contribute to the preservation of this invaluable natural heritage for future generations.

FAQs

1. Where is the NYS Biodiversity Lab physically located? The NYS Biodiversity Research Institute

isn't a single location but a network of researchers and collections across the state, often associated with universities and other research institutions.

2. How can I access the data collected by the NYS Biodiversity Lab? Much of the data is accessible online through various databases and portals, often linked through the partnering universities and institutions involved. Contact specific departments for more detailed access information.

3. Does the NYS Biodiversity Lab offer internships or volunteer opportunities? Opportunities for internships and volunteering may vary, so check the websites of participating institutions for current openings and application processes.

4. What kind of research grants does the NYS Biodiversity Lab offer? The institute likely doesn't directly offer research grants, but researchers can apply for funding through associated universities and state programs.

5. How can I report a rare or unusual species sighting in New York State? Several online portals and reporting mechanisms exist, often linked to the Department of Environmental Conservation or partnering organizations associated with the NYS Biodiversity Research Institute. Search online for "New York State wildlife reporting" to find relevant resources.

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Francesco Pietra's study focuses on representative examples of biodiversity and natural products that exhibit diversity drawn from the literature and the author's own observations.

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Climate Change and Cities bridges science-to-action for climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts in cities around the world.

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nys biodiversity lab: A Framework for K-12 Science Education National Research Council, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Board on Science Education, Committee on a Conceptual Framework for New K-12 Science Education Standards, 2012-02-28
Science, engineering, and technology permeate nearly every facet of modern life and hold the key to solving many of humanity's most pressing current and future challenges. The United States' position in the global economy is declining, in part because U.S. workers lack fundamental knowledge in these fields. To address the critical issues of U.S. competitiveness and to better prepare the workforce, A Framework for K-12 Science Education proposes a new approach to K-12 science education that will capture students' interest and provide them with the necessary foundational knowledge in the field. A Framework for K-12 Science Education outlines a broad set of expectations for students in science and engineering in grades K-12. These expectations will inform the development of new standards for K-12 science education and, subsequently, revisions to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development for educators. This book identifies three dimensions that convey the core ideas and practices around which science and engineering education in these grades should be built. These three dimensions are: crosscutting concepts that unify the study of science through their common application across science and engineering; scientific and engineering practices; and disciplinary core ideas in the physical sciences, life sciences, and earth and space sciences and for engineering, technology, and the applications of science. The overarching goal is for all high school graduates to have sufficient knowledge of science and engineering to engage in public discussions

on science-related issues, be careful consumers of scientific and technical information, and enter the careers of their choice. A Framework for K-12 Science Education is the first step in a process that can inform state-level decisions and achieve a research-grounded basis for improving science instruction and learning across the country. The book will guide standards developers, teachers, curriculum designers, assessment developers, state and district science administrators, and educators who teach science in informal environments.

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nys biodiversity lab: Not for Tourists Guide to New York City Not for Tourists, Inc, Not for Tourists Staff, 2007 Features easy-to-read maps and listings of key services, restaurants, shops, schools, entertainment venues, public transportation, and parks in New York City.

nys biodiversity lab: Bacteriophage Ecology Stephen T. Abedon, 2008-05-01 Bacteriophages, or phages, are viruses that infect bacteria and are believed to be the most abundant and genetically diverse organisms on Earth. As such, their ecology is vast both in quantitative and qualitative terms. Their abundance makes an understanding of phage ecology increasingly relevant to bacterial ecosystem ecology, bacterial genomics and bacterial pathology. Abedon provides the first text on phage ecology for almost 20 years. Written by leading experts, synthesizing the three key approaches to studying phage ecology, namely studying them in natural environments (in situ), experimentally in the lab, or theoretically using mathematical or computer models. With strong emphasis on microbial population biology and distilling cutting-edge research into basic principles, this book will complement other currently available volumes. It will therefore serve as an essential resource for graduate students and researchers, particularly those with an interest in phage ecology and evolutionary biology.

nys biodiversity lab: Conservation Biogeography Richard J. Ladle, Robert J. Whittaker, 2011-01-11 CONSERVATION BIOGEOGRAPHY The Earth's ecosystems are in the midst of an

unprecedented period of change as a result of human action. Many habitats have been completely destroyed or divided into tiny fragments, others have been transformed through the introduction of new species, or the extinction of native plants and animals, while anthropogenic climate change now threatens to completely redraw the geographic map of life on this planet. The urgent need to understand and prescribe solutions to this complicated and interlinked set of pressing conservation issues has led to the transformation of the venerable academic discipline of biogeography – the study of the geographic distribution of animals and plants. The newly emerged sub-discipline of conservation biogeography uses the conceptual tools and methods of biogeography to address real world conservation problems and to provide predictions about the fate of key species and ecosystems over the next century. This book provides the first comprehensive review of the field in a series of closely interlinked chapters addressing the central issues within this exciting and important subject.

nys biodiversity lab: Our Changing Menu Michael P. Hoffmann, Carrie Koplinka-Loehr, Danielle L. Eiseman, 2021-04-15 *Our Changing Menu* unpacks the increasingly complex relationships between food and climate change. Whether you're a chef, baker, distiller, restaurateur, or someone who simply enjoys a good pizza or drink, it's time to come to terms with how climate change is affecting our diverse and interwoven food system. Michael P. Hoffmann, Carrie Koplinka-Loehr, and Danielle L. Eiseman offer an eye-opening journey through a complete menu of before-dinner drinks and salads; main courses and sides; and coffee and dessert. Along the way they examine the escalating changes occurring to the flavors of spices and teas, the yields of wheat, the vitamins in rice, and the price of vanilla. Their story is rounded out with a primer on the global food system, the causes and impacts of climate change, and what we can all do. *Our Changing Menu* is a celebration of food and a call to action—encouraging readers to join with others from the common ground of food to help tackle the greatest challenge of our time.

nys biodiversity lab: Plant-derived Natural Products Anne E. Osbourn, Virginia Lanzotti, 2009-07-07 Plants produce a huge array of natural products (secondary metabolites). These compounds have important ecological functions, providing protection against attack by herbivores and microbes and serving as attractants for pollinators and seed-dispersing agents. They may also contribute to competition and invasiveness by suppressing the growth of neighboring plant species (a phenomenon known as allelopathy). Humans exploit natural products as sources of drugs, flavoring agents, fragrances and for a wide range of other applications. Rapid progress has been made in recent years in understanding natural product synthesis, regulation and function and the evolution of metabolic diversity. It is timely to bring this information together with contemporary advances in chemistry, plant biology, ecology, agronomy and human health to provide a comprehensive guide to plant-derived natural products. *Plant-derived natural products: synthesis, function and application* provides an informative and accessible overview of the different facets of the field, ranging from an introduction to the different classes of natural products through developments in natural product chemistry and biology to ecological interactions and the significance of plant-derived natural products for humans. In the final section of the book a series of chapters on new trends covers metabolic engineering, genome-wide approaches, the metabolic consequences of genetic modification, developments in traditional medicines and nutraceuticals, natural products as leads for drug discovery and novel non-food crops.

nys biodiversity lab: Freshwater Biodiversity David Dudgeon, 2020-05-21 Fresh waters are disproportionately rich in species, and represent global hotspots of biodiversity. However, they are also hotspots of endangerment.

nys biodiversity lab: *The Botany of Desire* Michael Pollan, 2002-05-28 “Pollan shines a light on our own nature as well as on our implication in the natural world.” —The New York Times “A wry, informed pastoral.” —The New Yorker The book that helped make Michael Pollan, the New York Times bestselling author of *How to Change Your Mind*, *Cooked* and *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*, one of the most trusted food experts in America Every schoolchild learns about the mutually beneficial dance of honeybees and flowers: The bee collects nectar and pollen to make honey and, in the

process, spreads the flowers' genes far and wide. In *The Botany of Desire*, Michael Pollan ingeniously demonstrates how people and domesticated plants have formed a similarly reciprocal relationship. He masterfully links four fundamental human desires—sweetness, beauty, intoxication, and control—with the plants that satisfy them: the apple, the tulip, marijuana, and the potato. In telling the stories of four familiar species, Pollan illustrates how the plants have evolved to satisfy humankind's most basic yearnings. And just as we've benefited from these plants, we have also done well by them. So who is really domesticating whom?

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nys biodiversity lab: Algae Sachin Kumar Mandotra, Atul Kumar Upadhyay, Amrik Singh Ahluwalia, 2020-11-02 This exciting book presents diverse applications of microalgal renewable resources to meet modern demands for energy and value-added products. It also comprehensively describes the role of algae in sustainable and cost-effective wastewater treatment strategies, and highlights the latest research on, advances in and biotechnological relevance of algae in the areas of bioenergy, bioremediation, pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals and green economy. The book addresses gaps in the fields of bioenergy, waste management, health and economy by providing broad information on bioenergy production, management strategies, drug development, nutraceuticals products and biobased economy using algae at the commercial level. The book introduces researchers to key and emerging innovations in the field of algal biology research and will assist policymakers, environmentalists, scientists, students and global thinkers in defining sustainable developmental goals for the future. Accordingly, it is an extremely important read for researchers and students in the environmental sciences, life sciences and chemistry, experts in the energy sector and policymakers alike.

nys biodiversity lab: Ocean Outbreak Drew Harvell, 2021-03-16 There is a growing crisis in our oceans: mysterious outbreaks of infectious disease are on the rise. Marine epidemics can cause mass die-offs of wildlife from the bottom to the top of food chains, impacting the health of ocean ecosystems as well as lives on land. Portending global environmental disaster, ocean outbreaks are fueled by warming seas, sewage dumping, unregulated aquaculture, and drifting plastic. *Ocean Outbreak* follows renowned scientist Drew Harvell and her colleagues into the field as they investigate how four iconic marine animals—corals, abalone, salmon, and starfish—have been devastated by disease. Based on over twenty years of research, this firsthand account of the sometimes gradual, sometimes exploding impact of disease on our ocean's biodiversity ends with solutions and a call to action. Only through policy changes and the implementation of innovative solutions from nature can we reduce major outbreaks, save some ocean ecosystems, and protect our fragile environment.

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writing style, comprehensive coverage, and sophisticated presentation, *Marine Biology: Function, Biodiversity, Ecology*, Sixth Edition, is regarded by many as the most authoritative marine biology text. Over the course of six editions, Jeffrey Levinton has balanced his organismal and ecological focus by including the latest developments on molecular biology, global climate change, and ocean processes--

nys biodiversity lab: *A Sea of Glass* Drew Harvell, 2016-05-17 The author makes an eloquent plea for marine biodiversity conservation.—Library Journal Harvell seems to channel the devotion that motivated the Blaschkas.—The Guardian Winner of the 2016 National Outdoor Book Award, Environment Category It started with a glass octopus. Dusty, broken, and all but forgotten, it caught Drew Harvell's eye. Fashioned in intricate detail by the father-son glassmaking team of Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka, the octopus belonged to a menagerie of unusual marine creatures that had been packed away for decades in a storage unit. More than 150 years earlier, the Blaschkas had been captivated by marine invertebrates and spun their likenesses into glass, documenting the life of oceans untouched by climate change and human impacts. Inspired by the Blaschkas' uncanny replicas, Harvell set out in search of their living counterparts. In *A Sea of Glass*, she recounts this journey of a lifetime, taking readers along as she dives beneath the ocean's surface to a rarely seen world, revealing the surprising and unusual biology of some of the most ancient animals on the tree of life. On the way, we glimpse a century of change in our ocean ecosystems and learn which of the living matches for the Blaschkas' creations are, indeed, as fragile as glass. Drew Harvell and the Blaschka menagerie are the subjects of the documentary *Fragile Legacy*, which won the Best Short Film award at the 2015 Blue Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Summit. Learn more about the film and check out the trailer here.

nys biodiversity lab: *Spatial Complexity, Informatics, and Wildlife Conservation* Samuel A. Cushman, Falk Huettmann, 2009-12-21 As Earth faces the greatest mass extinction in 65 million years, the present is a moment of tremendous foment and emergence in ecological science. With leaps in advances in ecological research and the technical tools available, scientists face the critical task of challenging policymakers and the public to recognize the urgency of our global crisis. This book focuses directly on the interplay between theory, data, and analytical methodology in the rapidly evolving fields of animal ecology, conservation, and management. The mixture of topics of particular current relevance includes landscape ecology, remote sensing, spatial modeling, geostatistics, genomics, and ecological informatics. The greatest interest to the practicing scientist and graduate student will be the synthesis and integration of these topics to provide a composite view of the emerging field of spatial ecological informatics and its applications in research and management.

nys biodiversity lab: *Infectious Disease Ecology* Richard S. Ostfeld, Felicia Keesing, Valerie T. Eviner, 2010-12-16 News headlines are forever reporting diseases that take huge tolls on humans, wildlife, domestic animals, and both cultivated and native plants worldwide. These diseases can also completely transform the ecosystems that feed us and provide us with other critical benefits, from flood control to water purification. And yet diseases sometimes serve to maintain the structure and function of the ecosystems on which humans depend. Gathering thirteen essays by forty leading experts who convened at the Cary Conference at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies in 2005, this book develops an integrated framework for understanding where these diseases come from, what ecological factors influence their impacts, and how they in turn influence ecosystem dynamics. It marks the first comprehensive and in-depth exploration of the rich and complex linkages between ecology and disease, and provides conceptual underpinnings to understand and ameliorate epidemics. It also sheds light on the roles that diseases play in ecosystems, bringing vital new insights to landscape management issues in particular. While the ecological context is a key piece of the puzzle, effective control and understanding of diseases requires the interaction of professionals in medicine, epidemiology, veterinary medicine, forestry, agriculture, and ecology. The essential resource on the subject, *Infectious Disease Ecology* seeks to bridge these fields with an ecological approach that focuses on systems thinking and complex interactions.

nys biodiversity lab: *The Living Landscape* Rick Darke, Douglas W. Tallamy, 2016-02-04 "This thoughtful, intelligent book is all about connectivity, addressing a natural world in which we are the primary influence." —The New York Times Books Review Many gardeners today want a home landscape that nourishes and fosters wildlife, but they also want beauty, a space for the kids to play, privacy, and maybe even a vegetable patch. Sure, it's a tall order, but *The Living Landscape* shows you how to do it. You'll learn the strategies for making and maintaining a diverse, layered landscape—one that offers beauty on many levels, provides outdoor rooms and turf areas for children and pets, incorporates fragrance and edible plants, and provides cover, shelter, and sustenance for wildlife. Richly illustrated and informed by both a keen eye for design and an understanding of how healthy ecologies work, *The Living Landscape* will enable you to create a garden that fulfills both human needs and the needs of wildlife communities.

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evidence of transformation of maize the possibility of the world's major cereal crops being modified for improved nutritional value or resistance characteristics is now likely in the next few years. The increasing number of cloned plant genes and the increasing sophistication of our knowledge of the major developmental and biochemical pathways in plants should eventually allow us to engineer crop plants with higher yields and with less detrimental impact on the environment than now occurs in our current high input agricultural systems. This book draws together many of the expanding areas of plant molecular biology and genetic engineering that will make a substantial contribution to the development of the more productive and efficient crop plants that the world's farmers will be planting in the next decade.

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