

# Contents

<b>Section 1. Introduction</b> . . . . .	1
<b>Section 2. Structure</b> . . . . .	3
1. Australian Savannas. J. WALKER and A. N. GILLISON . . . . .	5
2. Brazilian "Savannas". G. EITEN . . . . .	25
3. Chaco and Caatinga – South American Arid Savannas, Woodlands and Thickets. E. H. BUCHER . . . . .	48
4. The Structure and Dynamics of a West African Savanna J. C. MENAUT and J. CESAR . . . . .	80
5. Southern African Savannas. B. J. HUNTLEY . . . . .	101
6. Woody Plant Biomass Distribution in <i>Burkea africana</i> Savannas M. C. RUTHERFORD . . . . .	120
<b>Section 3. Determinants</b> . . . . .	143
7. The Influence of Soils, Geomorphology and Geology on the Distribution of Plant Communities in Savanna Ecosystems. M. M. COLE . . . . .	145
8. The Influence of Soil Moisture Balance on Ecosystem Patterns in Southern Africa. K. L. TINLEY . . . . .	175
9. The Effect of Soil Nutrient Availability on Community Structure in African Ecosystems. R. H. V. BELL . . . . .	193
10. The Influence of Large Herbivores on Savanna Structure in Africa D. H. M. CUMMING . . . . .	217
11. Fire in Australian Tropical Savannas. C. J. LACEY, J. WALKER, and I. R. NOBLE . . . . .	246
12. Ecological Effect of Fire in Brazilian Cerrado. L. M. COUTINHO . . . . .	273
13. Ecological Effects of Fire in South African Savannas. W. S. W. TROLLOPE . . . . .	292
<b>Section 4. Function</b> . . . . .	307
14. Physiological Ecology of Neotropical Savanna Plants. E. MEDINA . . . . .	308
15. Water Relations of Southern African Savannas G. C. BATE, P. R. FURNISS, and P. G. PENDLE . . . . .	336

16. Factors Influencing the Consumption of Plant Products by Large Herbivores. N. OWEN-SMITH . . . . .	359
17. Response of the Humid Subtropical Grassland of South Africa to Defoliation. N. M. TAINTON . . . . .	405
18. Consumption and Decomposition in Tropical Grassland Ecosystems at Lamto, Ivory Coast. M. LAMOTTE . . . . .	415
<b>Section 5. Nylsvley, a South African Savanna . . . . .</b>	<b>431</b>
19. Structure of the Nylsvley Savanna. B. J. HUNTLEY and J. W. MORRIS . . . . .	433
20. Towards the Development of an Energy Budget for a Savanna Ecosystem J. M. DE JAGER and T. D. HARRISON . . . . .	456
21. Phytomass, Seasonal Phenology and Photosynthetic Studies C. F. CRESSWELL, PAM FERRAR, J. O. GRUNOW, D. GROSSMANN, M. C. RUTHERFORD, and J. J. P. VAN WYK . . . . .	476
22. Nitrogen in the <i>Burkea</i> Savanna. G. C. BATE and CHARLOTTE GUNTON . . . . .	498
23. Trophic Ecology and Plant/Herbivore Energetics. M. V. GANDAR . . . . .	514
24. Litter Decomposition. J. W. MORRIS, J. J. BEZUIDENHOUT, and P. R. FURNISS . . . . .	535
<b>Section 6. Dynamics and Management . . . . .</b>	<b>555</b>
25. Aspects of the Stability and Resilience of Savanna Ecosystems B. H. WALKER and I. NOY-MEIR . . . . .	556
26. Stability of Plant-Herbivore Models and Possible Applications to Savanna. I. NOY-MEIR . . . . .	591
27. A Developing Computer Model of the Auob River Ecosystem. Kalahari Gemsbok National Park. A. M. STARFIELD, S. M. SHAPIRO, P. R. FURNISS, M. SEARS, P. F. RETIEF, P. T. VAN DER WALT, and M. G. L. MILLS . . . . .	610
28. Management Strategies for the Utilization of Southern African Savanna D. L. BARNES . . . . .	626
<b>Section 7. Conclusion: Characteristic Features of Tropical Savannas . . . . .</b>	<b>657</b>
<b>Subject Index . . . . .</b>	<b>661</b>