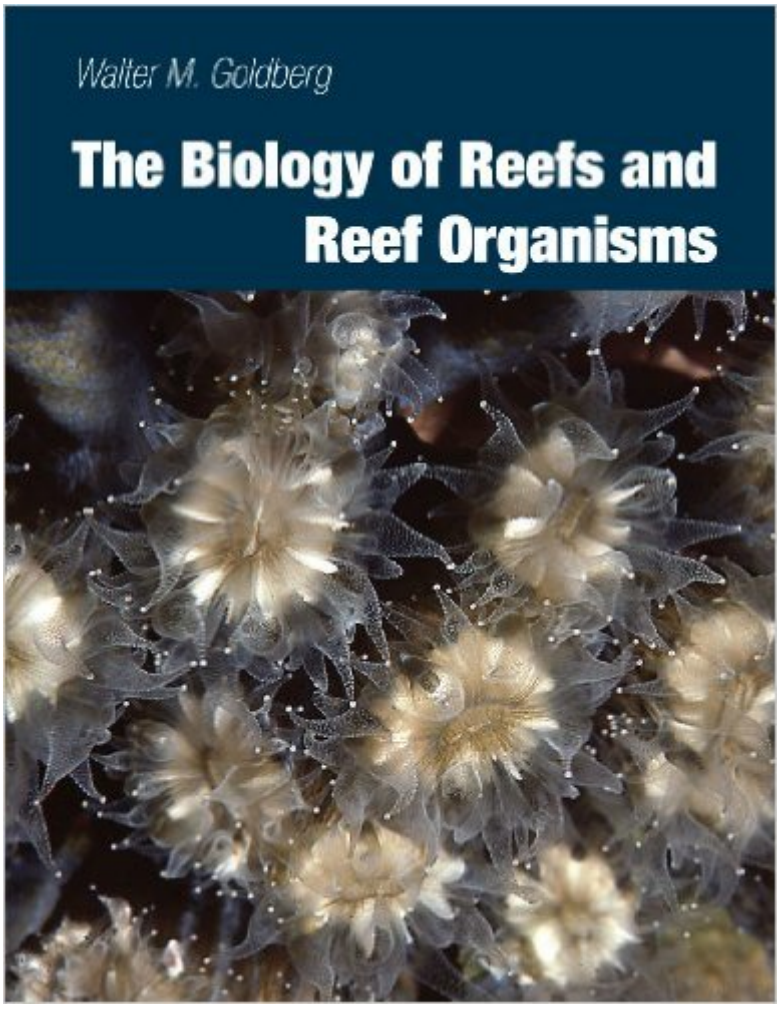
The Biology Of Reefs And Reef Organisms



Synopsis

Reefs provide a wealth of opportunity for learning about biological and ecosystem processes, and reef biology courses are among the most popular in marine biology and zoology departments the world over. Walter M. Goldberg has taught one such course for years, and he marshals that experience in the pages of The Biology of Reefs and Reef Organisms.Goldberg examines the nature not only of coral reefsâ ”the best known among types of reefsâ ”but also of sponge reefs, worm reefs, and oyster reefs, explaining the factors that influence their growth, distribution, and structure. A central focus of the book is reef construction, and Goldberg details the plants and animals that form the scaffold of the reef system and allow for the attachment and growth of other organisms, including those that function as bafflers, binders, and cementing agents. He also tours readers through reef ecology, paleontology, and biogeography, all of which serve as background for the problems reefs face today and the challenge of their conservation.Â Visually impressive, profusely illustrated, and easy to read, The Biology of Reefs and Reef Organisms offers a fascinating introduction to reef science and will appeal to students and instructors of marine biology, comparative zoology, and oceanography.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My review has to be taken in context: I am not a biologist or biology student but was a science major when I was in college. I find textbooks an excellent way to stay up-to-date on subjects or to learn new subjects that I have become interested in.This textbook appears to be an excellent resource for

the serious study of reef construction and reef life; it is an attractive book, well illustrated and well written. The material is beyond a beginners course or a survey course and delves in some detail into the specific organisms inhabiting the reef environment. I my particular case this is a little too much detail. It is still worth reading for the "casual" reader who has a decent understanding of basic biology and oceanography however the best audience is probably a more advanced and serious student of biologic oceanography.

Well written summary of reef ecology.