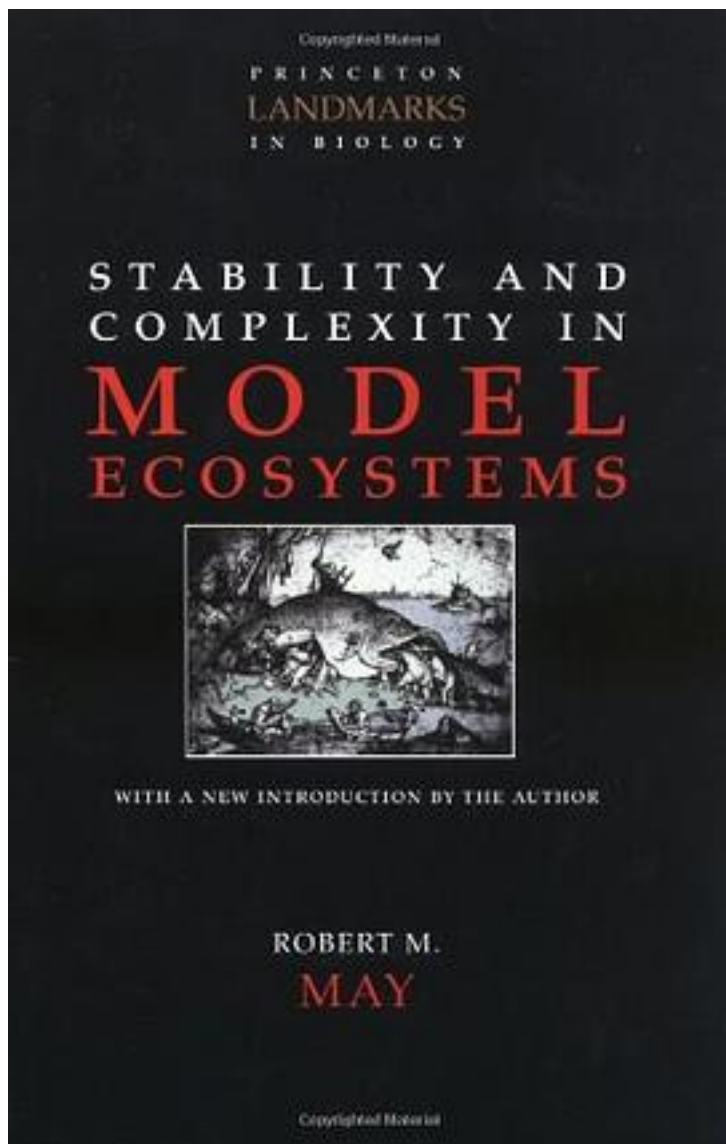


Stability and Complexity in Model Ecosystems



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出版者:Princeton University Press

出版时间:2001-4-1

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780691088617

What makes populations stabilize? What makes them fluctuate? Are populations in complex ecosystems more stable than populations in simple ecosystems? In 1973, Robert May addressed these questions in this classic book. May investigated the mathematical roots of population dynamics and argued - counter to most current biological thinking - that complex ecosystems in themselves do not lead to population stability. *Stability and Complexity in Model Ecosystems* played a key role in introducing nonlinear mathematical models and the study of deterministic chaos into ecology, a role chronicled in James Gleick's book *Chaos*. In the quarter century since its first publication, the book's message has grown in power. Nonlinear models are now at the center of ecological thinking, and current threats to biodiversity have made questions about the role of ecosystem complexity more crucial than ever. In a new introduction, the author addresses some of the changes that have swept biology and the biological world since the book's first publication.

作者介绍:

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评论

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书评

从(may,1973)的书中，作者通过数学模型分析了复杂性与稳定性的关系问题，他主要是用种群的共存来定义稳定性，并且主要用了平衡点附近局部稳定性的概念。得出的结论是，复杂性和多样性并不会造就更大的稳定性，而是相反，复杂程度的提高将导致不稳定性增加，或者说，复杂性需要...

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