

Environmental Evolution

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ENVIRONMENTAL EVOLUTION



EFFECTS OF
THE ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF LIFE
ON PLANET EARTH

second edition

EDITED BY

LYNN MARGULIS,
CLIFFORD MATTHEWS,
AND AARON HASELTON

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著者:Margulis, Lynn (EDT)/ Matthews, Clifford (EDT)/ Haselton, Aaron (EDT)

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In this book fifteen distinguished scientists discuss the effects of life--past and present--on planet Earth. Unlike other earth science and biology books, Environmental Evolution describes the impact of life on the Earth's rocky surfaces presenting an integrated view of how our planet evolved. Modeled on the Environmental Evolution course developed by Lynn Margulis and colleagues, it provides a unique synthesis of atmospheric, biological, and geological hypotheses that explain the present condition of the biosphere. The book develops scientific concepts essential to the reconstruction of the intertwined history of Earth's air, rocks, water, and life. After an introduction by James E. Lovelock on Gaia theory, the material proceeds in roughly chronological order from the origin of life in the early Archean Eon to the emergence of new environmental diseases in today's industrialized world. The second edition has been thoroughly revised, with more comprehensive chapters, additional illustrations, and new references. Contributors : Elso S. Barghoorn, Robert Buchsbaum, David Deamer, Stjepko Golubic, Jonathan King, Antonio Lazcano, James E. Lovelock, Lynn Margulis, Clifford Matthews, Michael McElroy, Mark McMenamin, Raymond Siever, Paul Strother, Tony Swain, Neil Todd.

作者介绍:

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