



The Biology of Soft Shores and Estuaries (Biology of Habitats Series)

By Colin Little

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This book focuses on marine and estuarine soft sediments as complex and essential habitats for an astonishing variety of animals and plants whose lifestyles are intimately bound up with sediment structure. It discusses sediments as habitats first, then takes in turn the ecosystems found on sandy shores, mudflats and seagrass beds, salt marshes and mangrove swamps, and life below the tidemarks. Adaptations of the organisms are fully described, and each chapter ends with a section on techniques. Later chapters discuss estuarine and lagoonal habitats, both of which contain primarily soft sediments, but add further complicating characteristics to those found in the sea. A discussion of estuarine food webs emphasizes the ways in which organisms interact. The book ends with a discussion of the ways in which marine and estuarine soft sediments have been abused by man, and some of the opportunities that have been taken to counteract these abuses.

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Review

" a comprehensive source of technical and practical information for anyone with an interest in marine and estuarine ecosystem." Sherkin Comment

About the Author

Dr Colin Little is a series editor of the Biology of Habitats series and author of the first volume in the 4eries, The biology of rocky shores

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