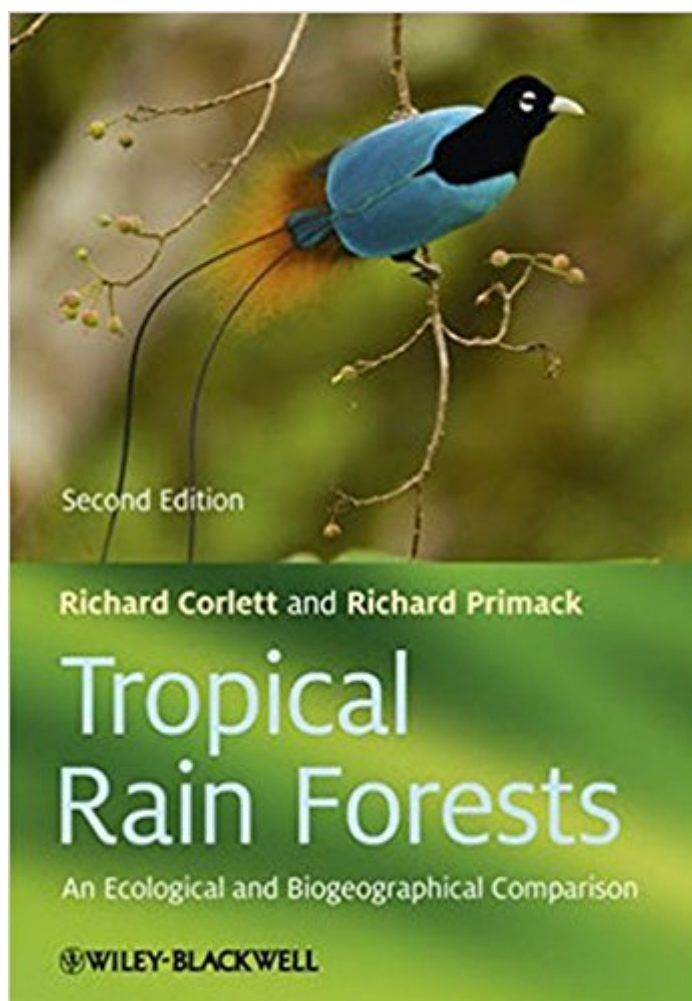


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# Tropical Rain Forests: An Ecological And Biogeographical Comparison



## Synopsis

The first edition of *Tropical Rain Forests: an Ecological and Biogeographical Comparison* exploded the myth of "the rain forest"™ as a single, uniform entity. In reality, the major tropical rain forest regions, in tropical America, Africa, Southeast Asia, Madagascar, and New Guinea, have as many differences as similarities, as a result of their isolation from each other during the evolution of their floras and faunas. This new edition reinforces this message with new examples from recent and on-going research. After an introduction to the environments and geological histories of the major rain forest regions, subsequent chapters focus on plants, primates, carnivores and plant-eaters, birds, fruit bats and gliding animals, and insects, with an emphasis on the ecological and biogeographical differences between regions. This is followed by a new chapter on the unique tropical rain forests of oceanic islands. The final chapter, which has been completely rewritten, deals with the impacts of people on tropical rain forests and discusses possible conservation strategies that take into account the differences highlighted in the previous chapters. This exciting and very readable book, illustrated throughout with color photographs, will be invaluable reading for undergraduate students in a wide range of courses as well as an authoritative reference for graduate and professional ecologists, conservationists, and interested amateurs.

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## Customer Reviews

“This well-written, superbly illustrated, book should be compulsory reading for politicians and international bureaucrats, because, however good the ecological science conducted in rainforest, it

will be a matter of preaching to the converted if it remains in scientific journals and does not reach the broader public. •Â (Austral Ecology, 11 July 2013) •œRecommended.Â Lower-divisionÂ undergraduates through graduate student; general readers.â •Â (Choice, 1 May 2012) "In summary: this is a fascinating book. I enjoyed it, I learned from it and I recommend it. It will be of value to academics, researchers and students, and, due to its accessible style and illustrations, it will appeal to many others too. Columbus would have found it helpful-but over half a millennium later so might many of us." (Frontiers of biogeography, 3 January 2011) Â

The first edition of *Tropical Rain Forests: an Ecological and Biogeographical Comparison* exploded the myth of â ^the rain forestâ <sup>TM</sup> as a single, uniform entity. In reality, the major tropical rain forest regions, in tropical America, Africa, Southeast Asia, Madagascar, and New Guinea, have as many differences as similarities, as a result of their isolation from each other during the evolution of their floras and faunas. This new edition reinforces this message with new examples from recent and on-going research. After an introduction to the environments and geological histories of the major rain forest regions, subsequent chapters focus on plants, primates, carnivores and plant-eaters, birds, fruit bats and gliding animals, and insects, with an emphasis on the ecological and biogeographical differences between regions. This is followed by a new chapter on the unique tropical rain forests of oceanic islands. The final chapter, which has been completely rewritten, deals with the impacts of people on tropical rain forests and discusses possible conservation strategies that take into account the differences highlighted in the previous chapters. This exciting and very readable book, illustrated throughout with color photographs, will be invaluable reading for undergraduate students in a wide range of courses as well as an authoritative reference for graduate and professional ecologists, conservationists, and interested amateurs.

If you are looking for a source of information that goes below the surface of rain forest ecology, this is the book. Information on the many areas incorporated into rainforest ecology are included, and help in understanding the function of the diverse systems and the threats against them. It will help both the novice and expert. And suggested readings will help for greater depth. Carry it with you when you go. It will help answer most of those questions you may have on rainforest ecology, and amaze your friends in the process.

This is an excellent concept for a book. Corlett knows his material, but the whole book is colored with a feel that they are doomed ecosystems. They are clearly in trouble, but the tone gets a little in

the way of the material. The prognosis for biodiversity is grim. Corlett sees poor and corrupt governments as much of the problem. A second problem is that international corporations have no motivation to conserve, but rather to maximize the return on bribes. The only tropical rainforest in a developed nation is in Australia (and a few small US islands). Prognosis is grim everywhere, but worst in Indonesia and Africa. Papua New Guinea's government is remarkably corrupt. That's what the book will leave you with, and presumably it's true. There actually is a rather good science content to the book, so if you can get past the doom and gloom, you can learn something.

This is a brilliant comparative overview of the tropical rainforests of the world. If you have a keen interest in travel and natural history you may enjoy this. It lacks many images, and it might be a little dense and technical for general readers, but if you have any biological training you will find it a great read. It is an expensive book, but I bought it twice (I lost the first one in the Daintree - I hope whoever ended up with it, enjoys it!). As the author of a book on the tropical rainforest of Australia, which gets ignored quite a bit on an international scale, it was great to see 'our' forest (along with New Guinea), get a many mentions. Damon Ramsey, Author, "Ecosystem Guides Rainforest of tropical Australia"

like new~great~

I had to get this book for one of my classes. We have yet to use it and the semester is half over. I have tried to read it several times... It is difficult to keep my attention on this book. It would be much easier to read it there were not text citations behind every sentence. Also, I believe that it is much easier to understand what the writer is describing when there are full color pictures, especially with any type of Biology book.

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