

Hi Aaron and Nick,

I really enjoyed reading the book! You do a great job of walking the reader through various aspects of community ecology linking theory to data. You also make a great case for *S. purpurea* being a model system. Plus, as always you had some fun popular culture references that kept me amused. The extensive bibliography will be a spectacular contribution for other researchers. Below I outline various notes I made while reading the text.

Best wishes,
Sydney

Ch 1

I love the play on words with scale. You could put some emphasis on how the scalability of *S. purpurea* makes it a perfect model system for the reintegration of biology (ala NSF's most recent town halls).

In Fig 1.2 the modeling axis and boxes don't match up in a spatially intuitive way.

Ch 2

Dolichoderus pustulatus specific epithet misspelled in table 2.4.

Tom Miller mentioned an old study describing how the nectar of *S. purpurea* was poisonous that might be a fun tidbit to add to p 62 on pollination.

Ch 3

P 89 first sentence noun is missing.

Fig 3.4 shouldn't the gray box go further left on the x axis? Also, include brief description of b1 vs b2. Is it just the different benefit in different habitats?

Ch 4

Does center triangle in Fig 4.5 indicate areas of no nutrient limitation? If yes, consider including in caption. Also, n and p are cut off.

Ch 5

Much of 5.2.3, especially overview of Wakefield et al. is redundant with reference to that study in Ch 4.

Fig 5.2 caption incorrectly refers to p_{mass}.

Fig 5.3 caption incorrectly refers to n_{mass}.

Figs 5.5-5.7 it would be cool if you could somehow indicate which arrows correspond to which studies, so if interested someone could see how the methods differed in prey additions.

Ch 6

P158 footnote $p(x)$ is survival & growth, not just survival.

Ch 7

P201 When mentioning other threats mention moose at a Hawley, which did wipe out plants.

P203 Emphasis here is on long term population trends, but much focus is being given to short term trends (Dietze) anything to mention here in those regards?

Ch8

P212 Be clear that you have presence only occurrence data.

P222 These are some clever solutions to data limitations.

P237 ma net and demographic were UNcorrelated

P230 Fig 8.4 shouldn't lambda legend show more shades of grey?

P236 Amen!

Ch 9

Table 9.1 d is nested within c

P262 should be $x_{sub j}$

Ch 11

P331 formatting error

P334 I am not completely up on this literature, but was confused by the window of vitality concept. Might you explain it more in a couple sentences to give readers more context?

P345 It is not clear to me why “boundaries on link density and trophic depth described in the previous section (figures 11.3, 11.4; see also Ulanowicz et al. 2014) suggest that a relatively small number of abiotic and biotic drivers interact to constrain food-web structure. “ perhaps because I didn't get the window of vitality concept?

Fig 11.8 left and right panels swapped in caption

Nice jelly bean and hard candy analogy on p434.