

Biodiversity Study Guide

1. What organisms digest dead plant and animal tissues?
2. When an organism is first introduced into an ecosystem and has no predators, it will —
3. Populations of one type of plant or animal may be separated but they will remain members of the same species as long as they
4. Exotic organisms that disperse into an ecosystem can cause changes by

The final stage of ecological succession is characterized by the presence of the climax community, the oak- hickory forest. Figure 3 depicts the gradual change from pine to hardwoods.

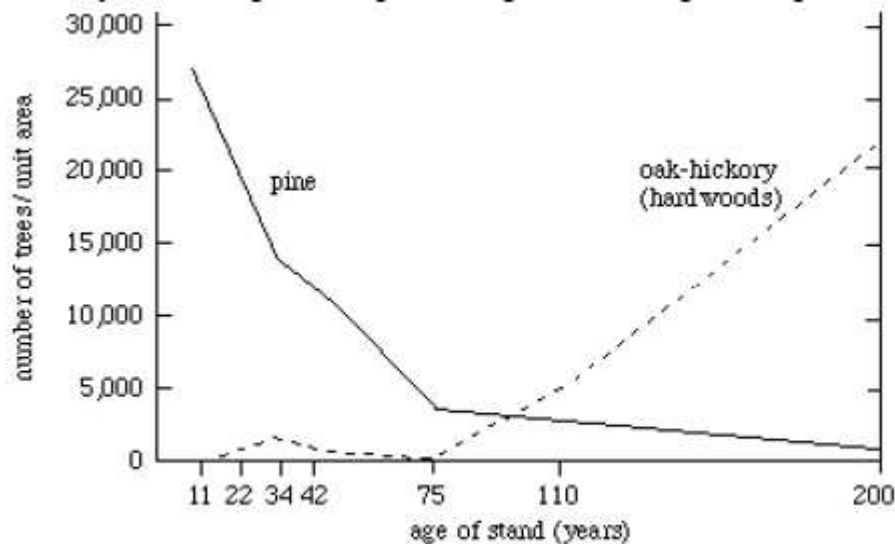


Figure 3

5. According to the information in Figure 3, a 150-year-old climax community would contain oak and hickory trees with a density of approximately:
6. Vultures, which are classified as scavengers, are an important part of an ecosystem because they ...

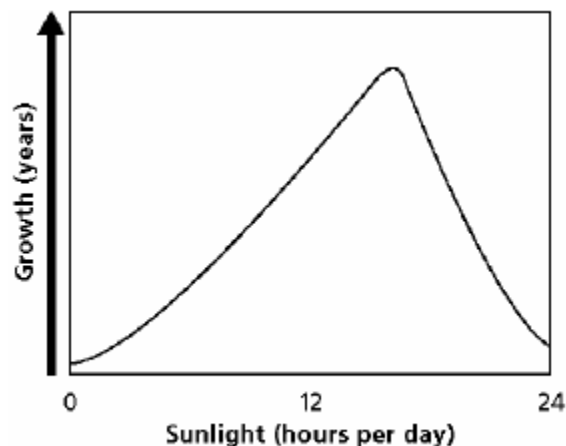


Figure 3-6

7. Look at the graph in Figure 3-6. What does this graph tell us about this species of plant?

8. Look at the graph in Figure 3-6. Approximately how many hours of sunlight should these plants receive each day in order to make them grow at their optimum level?
9. Humans are responsible for some of the negative changes that occur in nature because they
10. Snakes feed on mice. The mice eat grain crops. When the crops are plentiful, what will happen?
11. Biomes are usually named according to the
12. Most of the Earth's rain forests are found near the _____. Why?
13. Name each Biome

Found near the equator, temp varies little from 25 degrees C. Nearer the equator regions have distinct wet and dry seasons and deciduous forests occur. Trees re-leaf following heavy rains. Contain more plant and animal species than any other biome. Animals are mostly tree dwellers.

Characterized by low precipitation less than 30 cm / year, not by temperature: both cold and hot areas exist. Reptiles and seed eaters are common. Cacti and succulents are also common.

A few small trees with regions of dense, spiny shrubs, with tough evergreen leaves found along coasts where cool ocean currents circulate offshore making mild rainy winters and long hot dry summers. Think San Diego coast line.

-Grow throughout the mid latitude regions that contain enough moisture to support large broad-leaved trees who loose their leaves each year. Occur in Eastern US, Middle Europe, and E. Asia. Very cold winters, and very hot summers. High precipitation and evenly distributed through out the year.

Is the northern most limits of plant growth and at high altitudes plant forms are limits to shrubs and mat-like vegetation. Encircles the North Pole. Brief warm summers are marked with nearly 24 hours of sunlight. Permafrost, saturated soil prevents large plants from growing.

14. What is the Biosphere?
15. What is a Niche?
16. What is a Habitat?
17. What is a food chain? Describe one.
18. What is a food web? Describe one.
19. What are the levels of organization?
20. What is a producer?
21. What is a consumer?
22. What is a decomposer?
23. What is population density?
24. Why would the population of an environment increase or decrease?
25. What is Primary Succession?
26. What is Secondary Succession?
27. What is a Climax community?