

Zhu X-G, Long SP, Ort DR (2008) What is the maximum efficiency with which photosynthesis can convert solar energy into biomass? Current Opinion in Biotechnology 19: 153-159

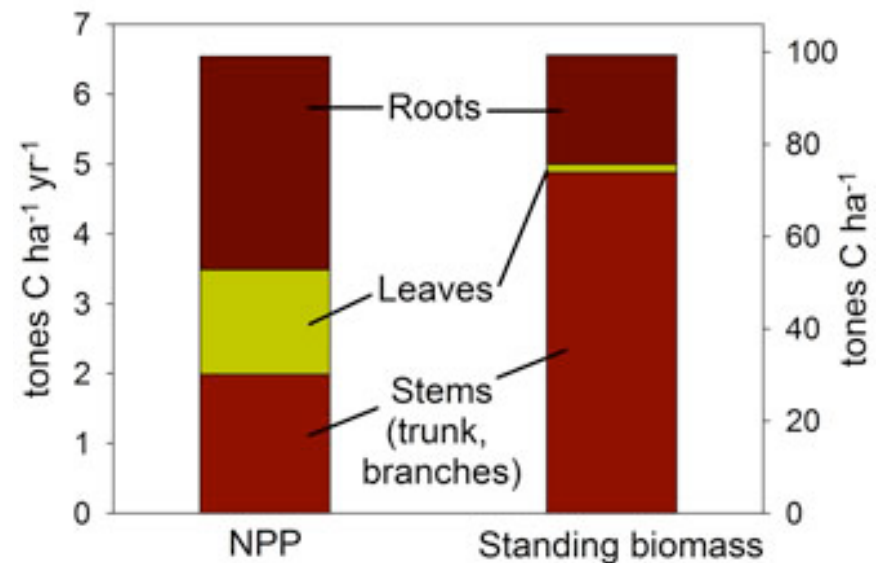
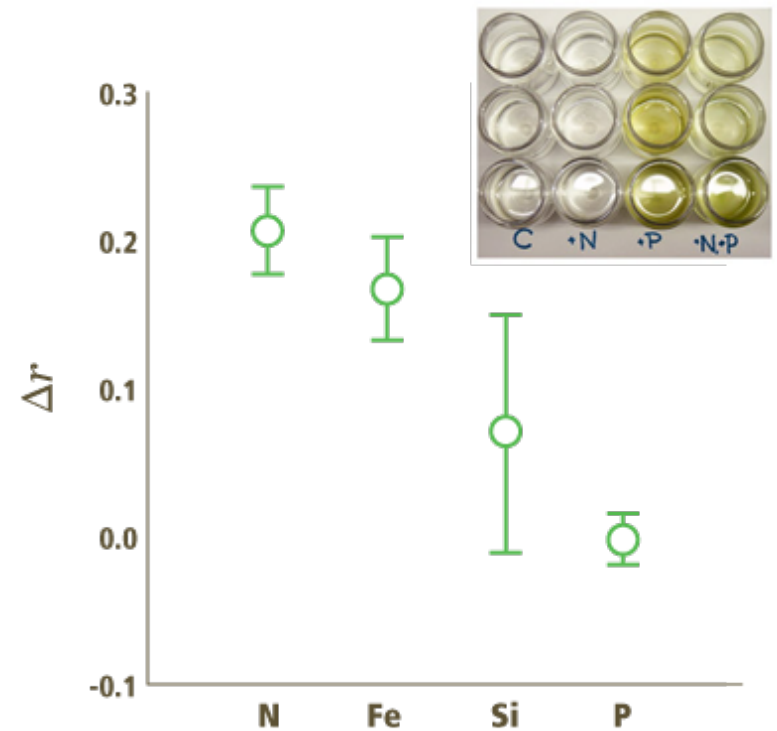
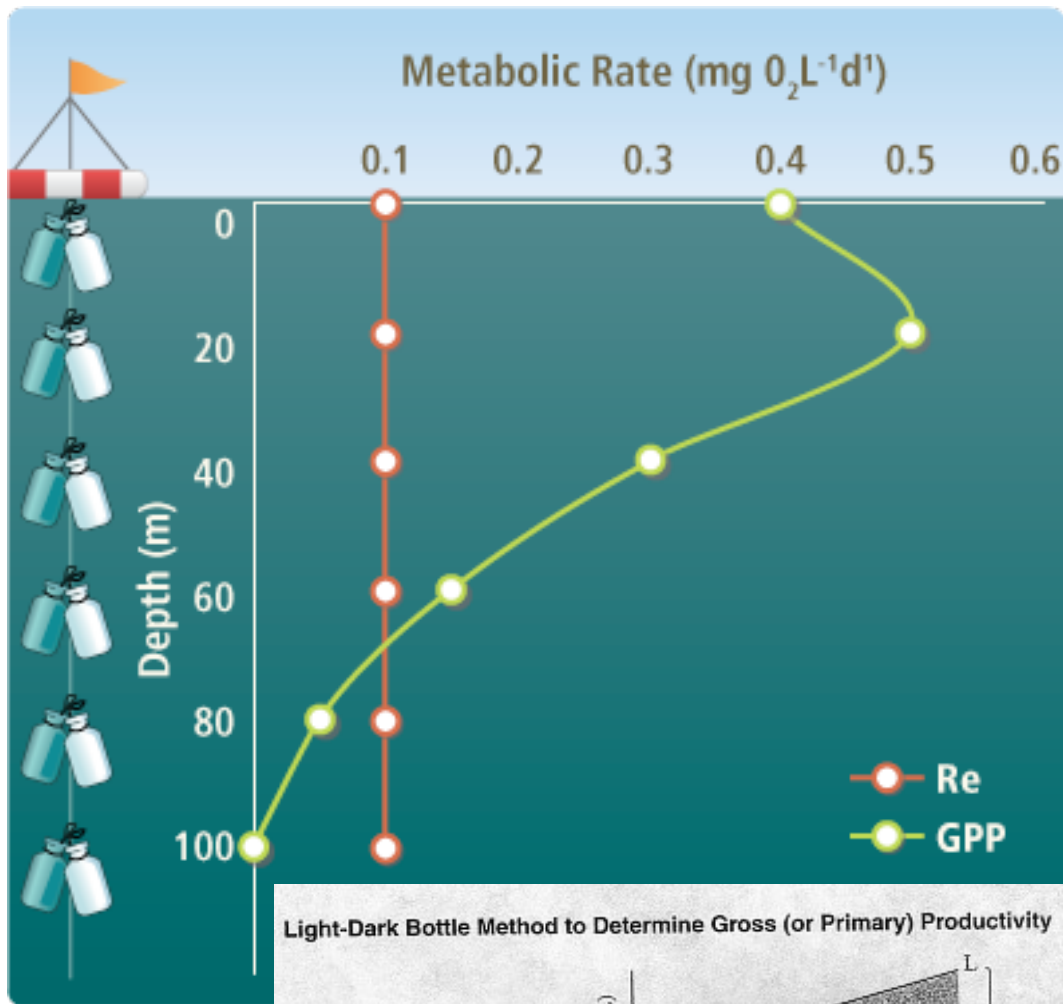
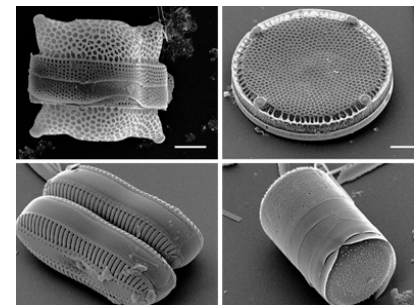
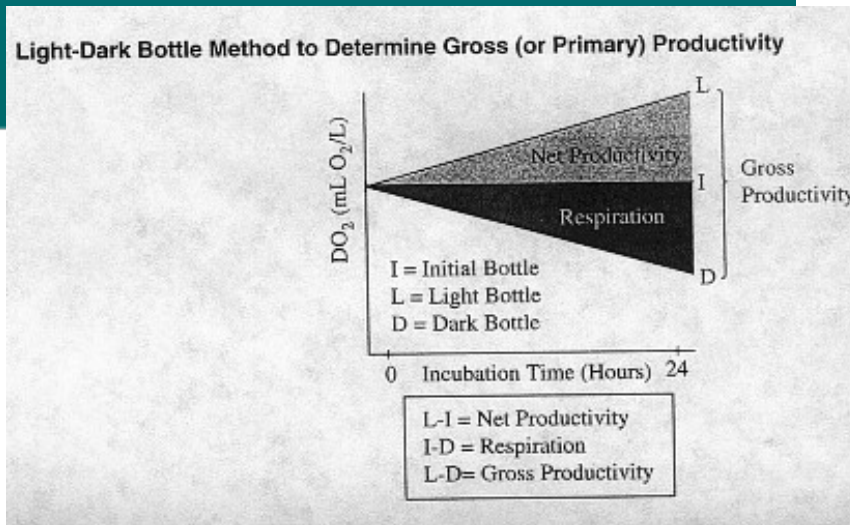


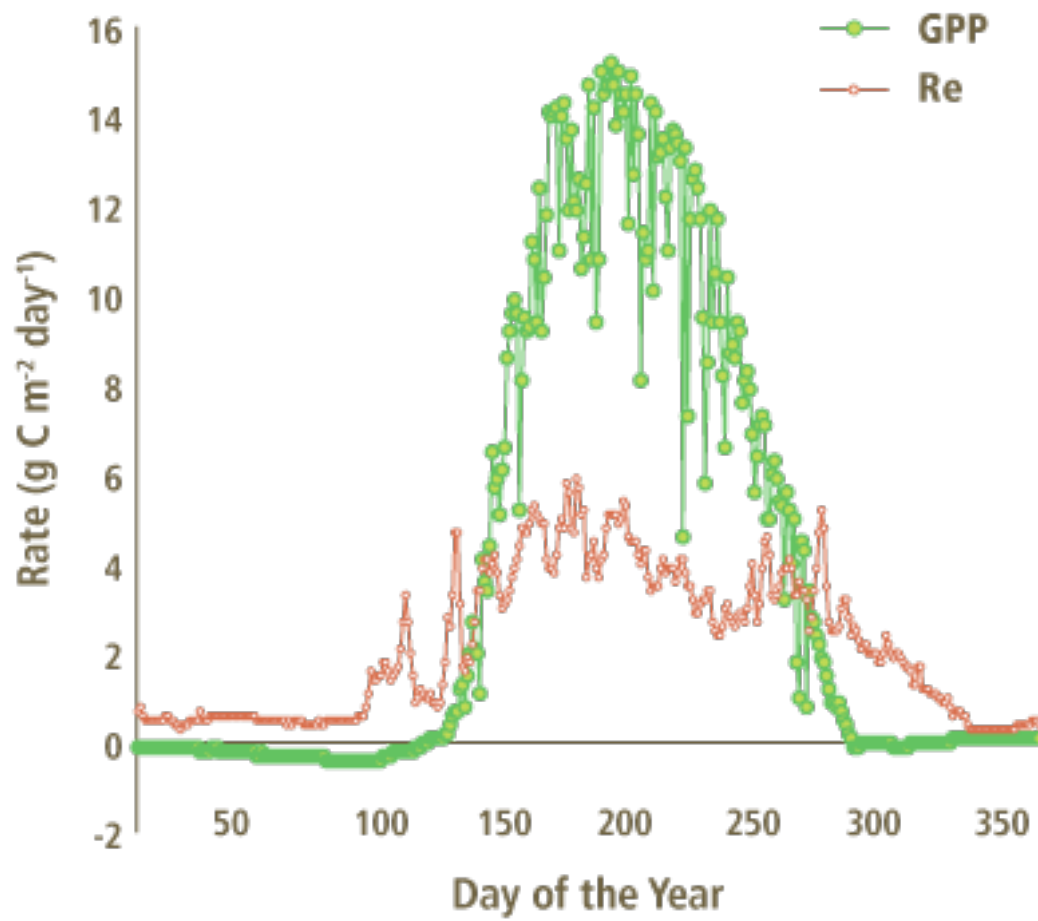
Figure 1: Net primary production (NPP) and standing biomass allocation for a 90-year-old Michigan forest estimated from inventory-based methods in which biomass growth is quantified over time (Gough et al. 2008)

<http://www.nature.com/scitable/knowledge/library/terrestrial-primary-production-fuel-for-life-17567411>



Average increase in algal growth relative to controls ( $\Delta r$ ) when a given nutrient is added





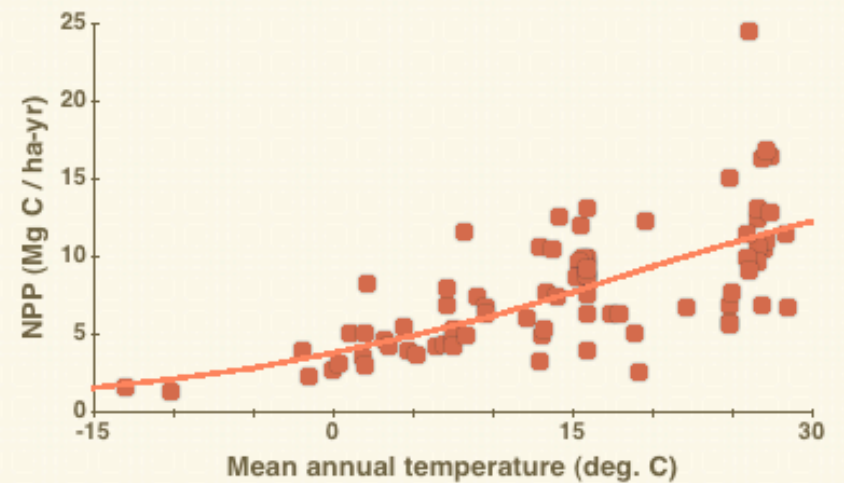
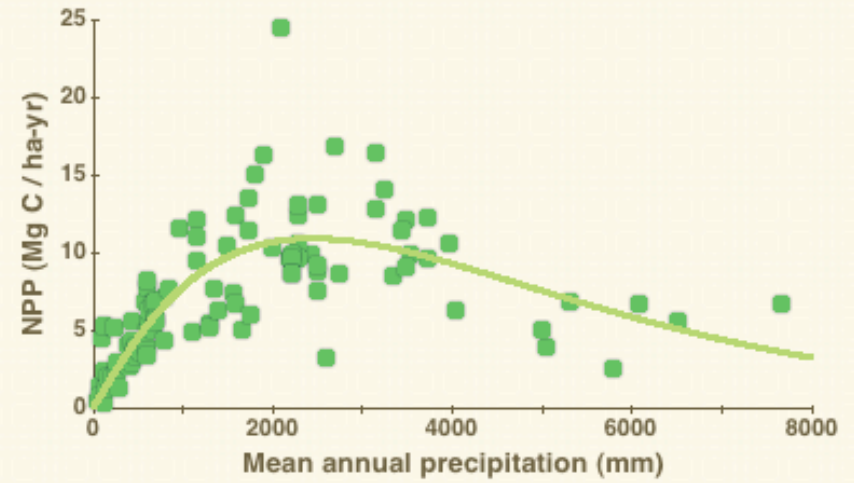
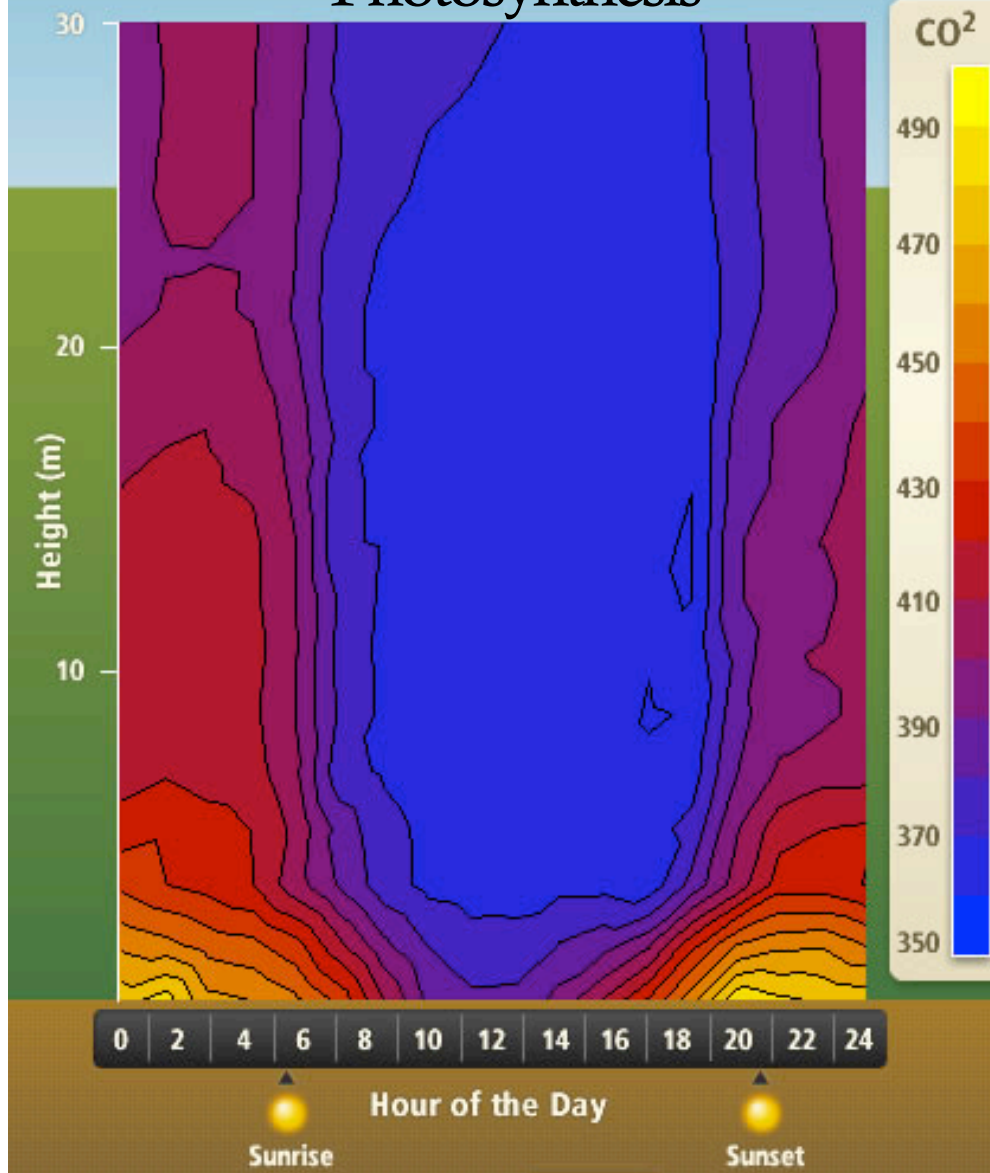
10 grams



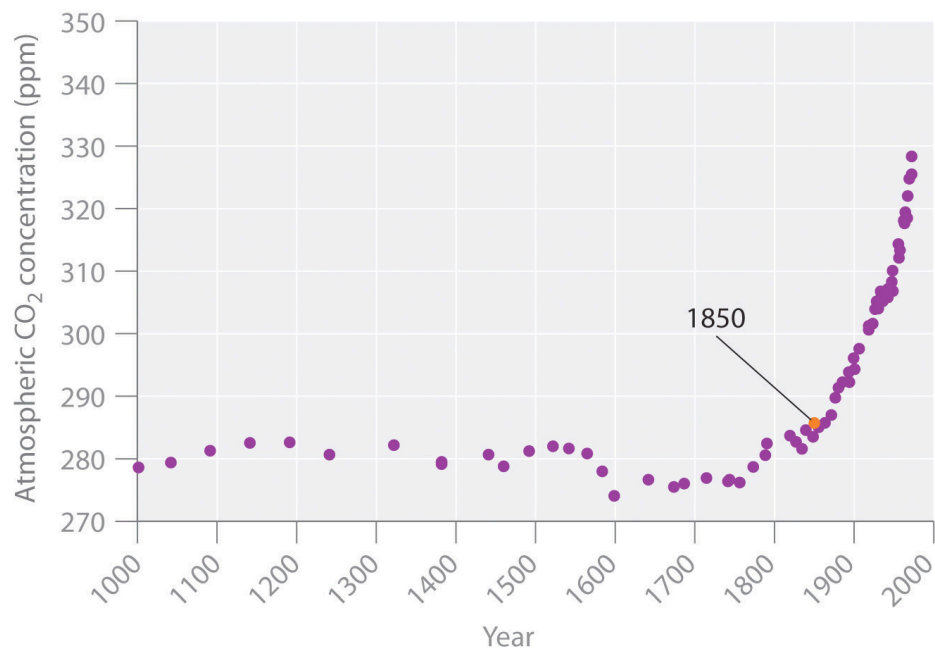


# R e s p i r a t i o n

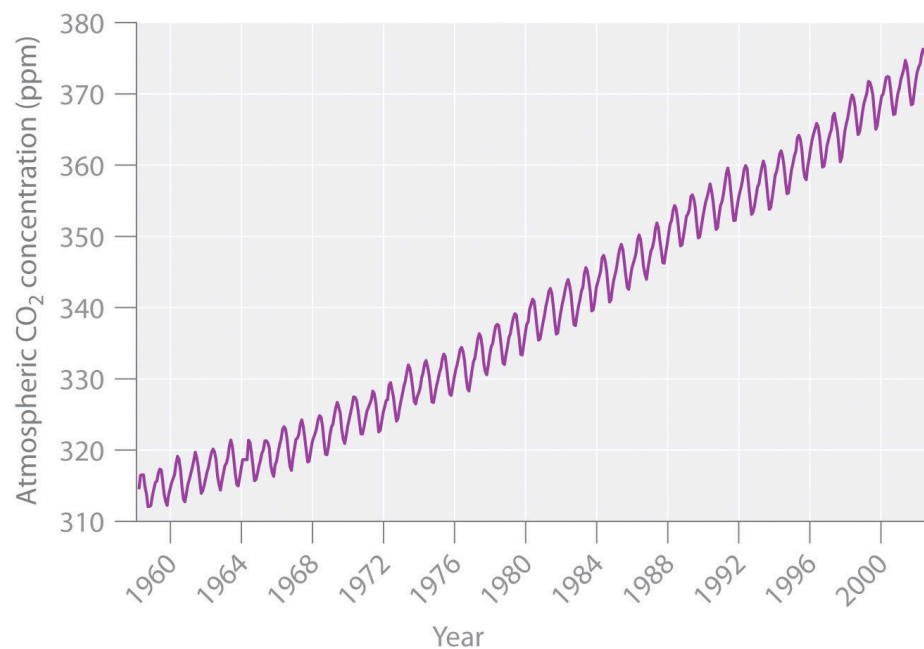
## Photosynthesis



NPP vs. mean annual precipitation (top) and temperature (bottom). Curves are nonlinear best-fit regressions. Data compiled from multiple sites spanning 5 continents and Hawaii. Data courtesy E.A.G. Schuur (from [Schuur 2003](#)).



**(a) Records from Antarctic ice cores (1006–1969)**



**(b) Records from monthly air samples, Mauna Loa Observatory, Hawaii (1958–2002)**

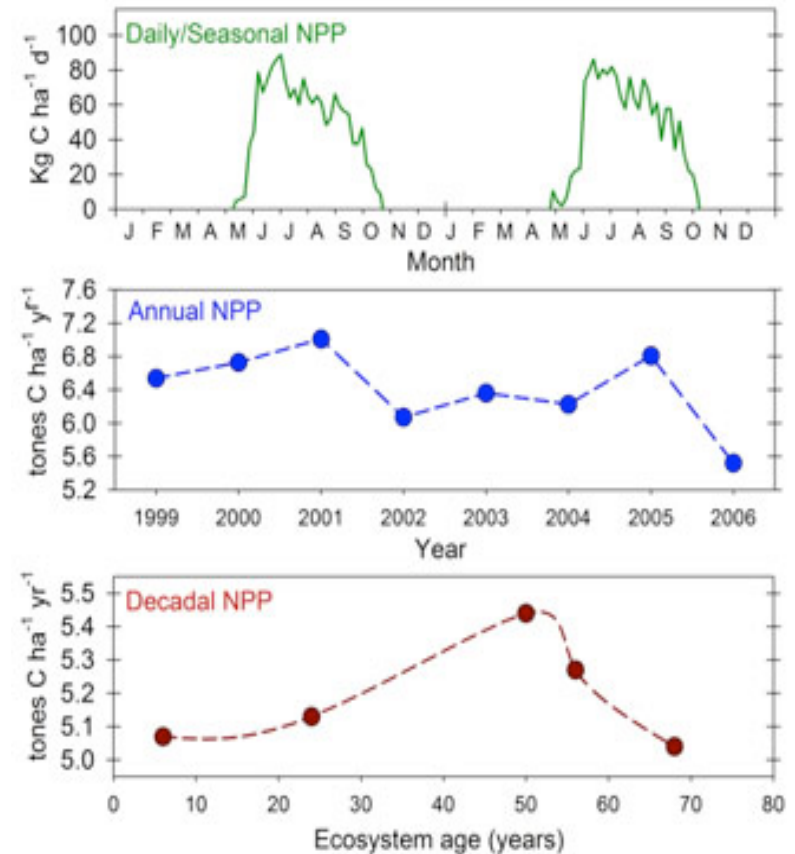
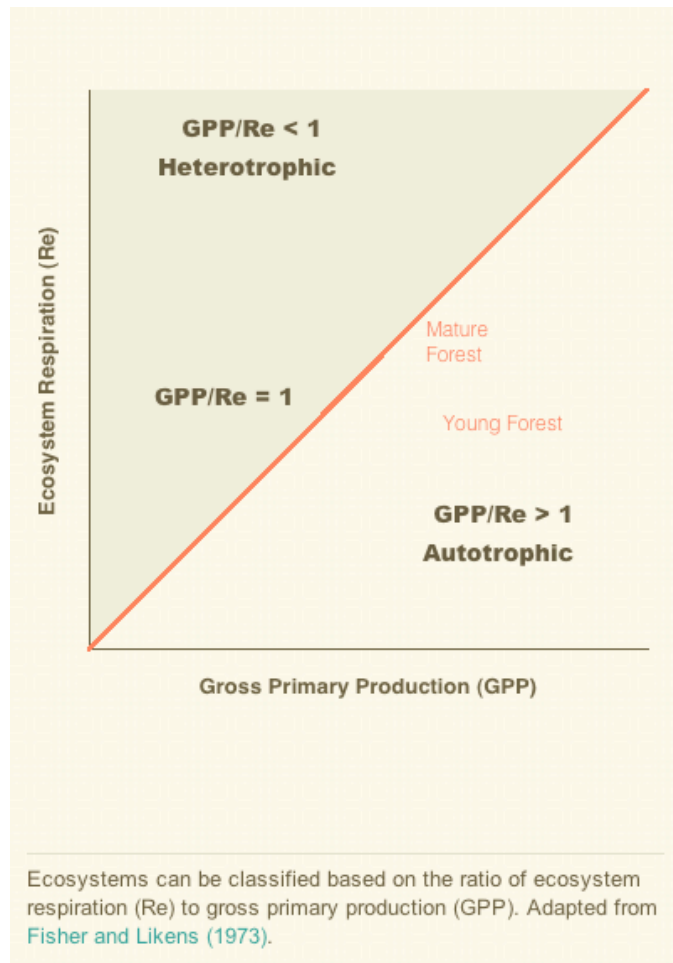
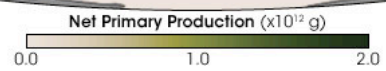
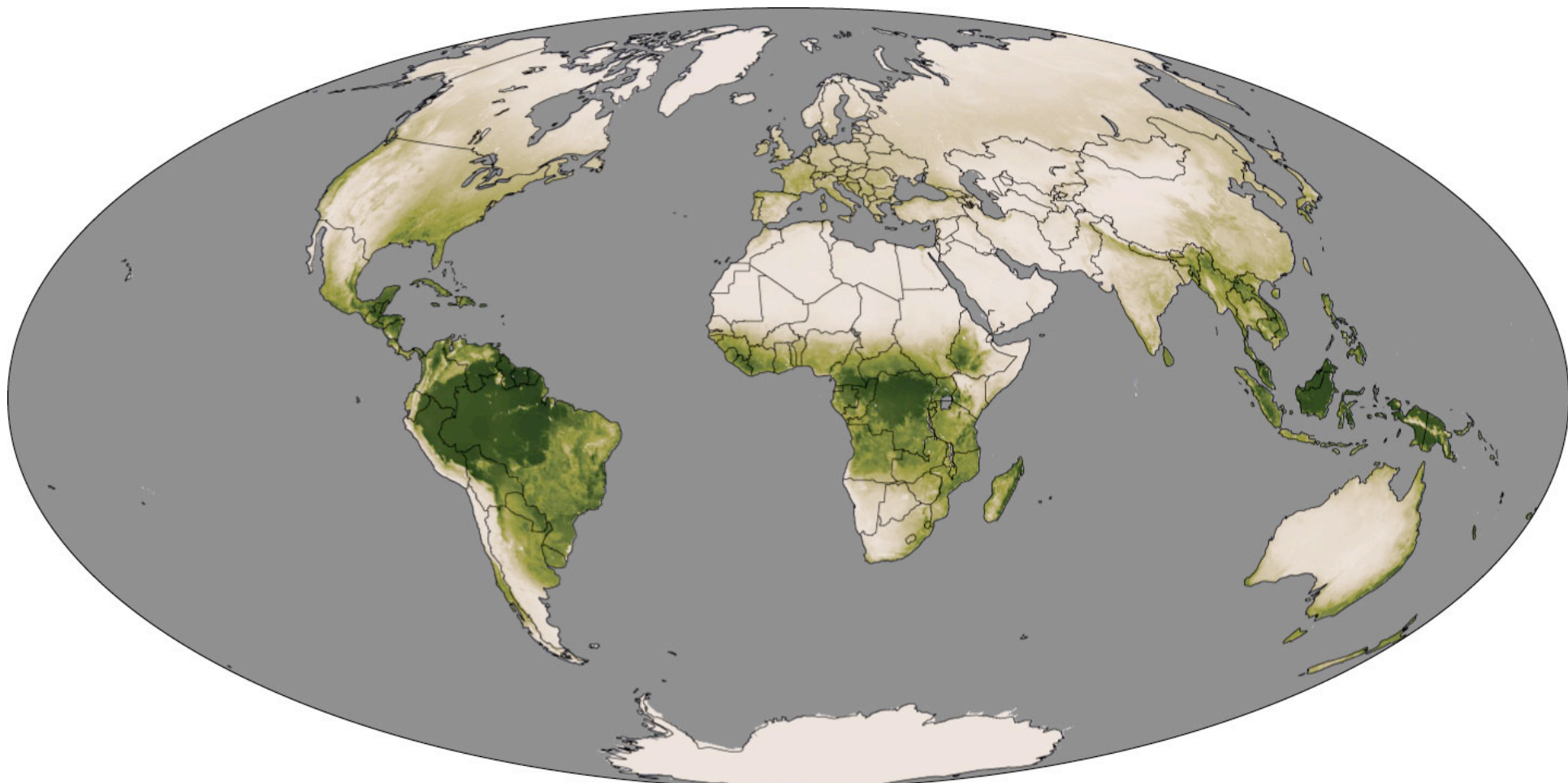


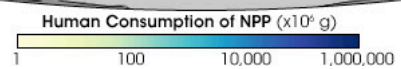
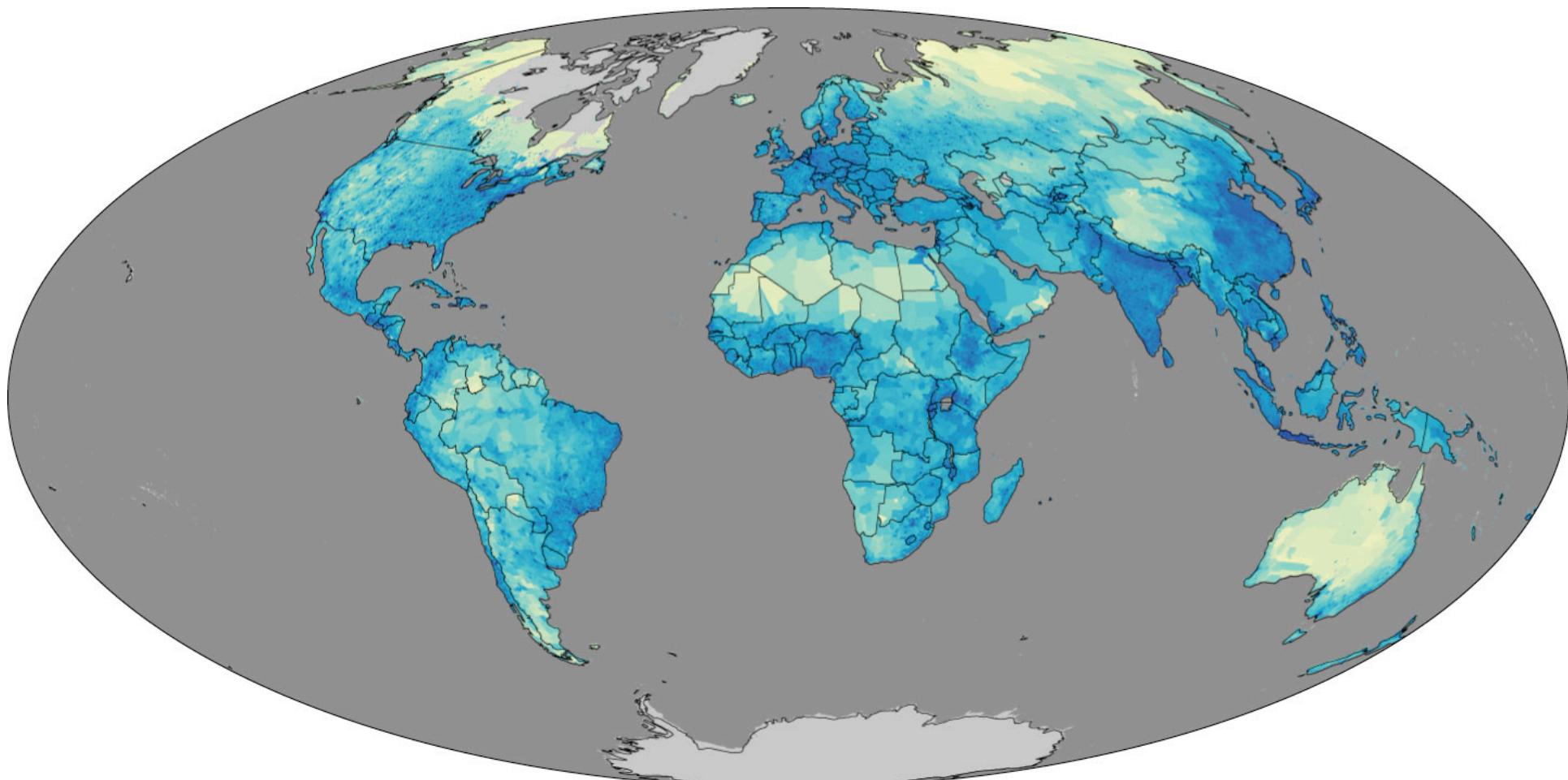
Figure 3: Patterns of terrestrial NPP at different timescales in a temperate forest: Daily net primary production (NPP) changes during the growing season in response to climate variables including solar radiation and precipitation, while the duration of NPP during the growing season (i.e., spring green-up to autumn leaf fall) is largely a function of photoperiod. Annual NPP changes from one year to the next in response to longer-term trends in climate, including shifts in total solar radiation caused by differences in cloud cover from year to year. Decadal patterns of NPP track changes in ecological succession (Gough et al. 2007, 2008).

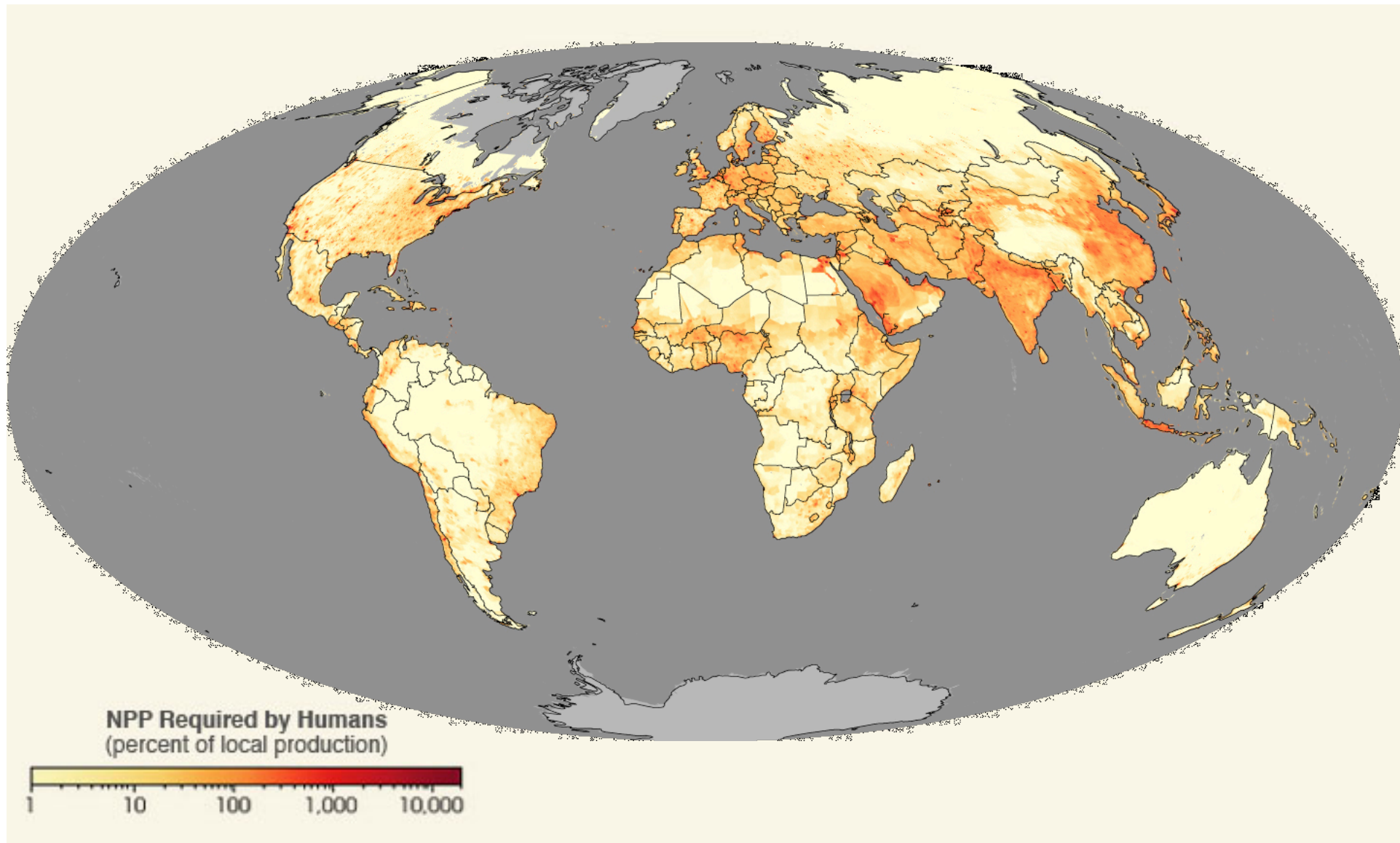


<b>Biome</b>	<b>Global GPP<sup>1</sup> Pg C / yr</b>	<b>Global NPP Pg C / yr</b>	<b>Ecosystem NPP g C / (ha · yr)</b>
Tropical forest	40.8	16.0–23.1	871–1098
Temperate forest	9.9	4.6–9.1	465–741
Boreal forest	8.3	2.6–4.6	173–238
Tropical savannah and grasslands	31.3	14.9–19.2	343–393
Temperate grasslands and shrublands	8.5	3.4–7.0	129–342
Deserts	6.4	0.5–3.5	28–151
Tundra	1.6	0.5–1.0	80–130
Croplands	14.8	4.1–8.0	288–468
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>48.0–69.0</b>	<b>2377–3561</b>

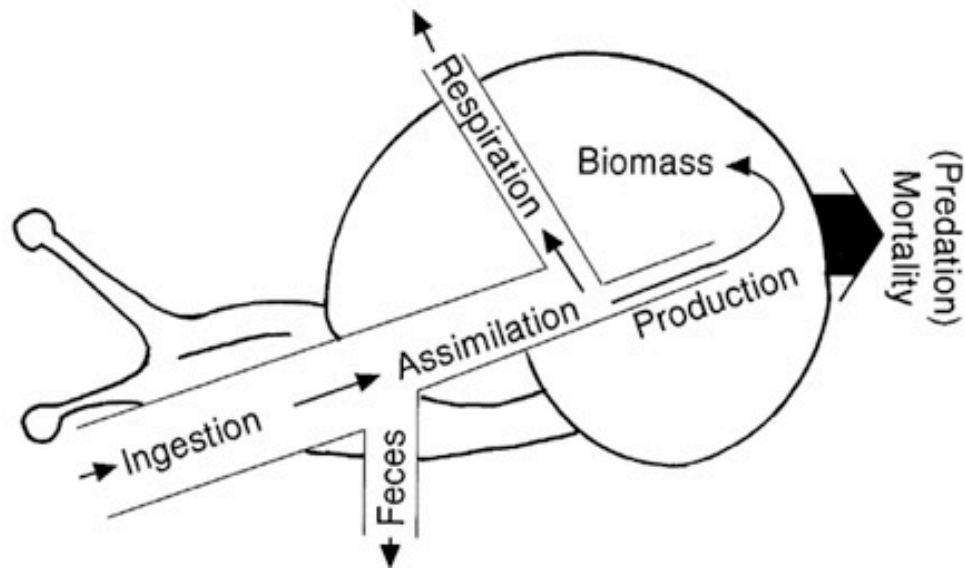
**Table 1: Global and ecosystem-scale estimates of mean terrestrial gross and net primary production for the Earth's major biomes from remotely sensed satellite data and modeling studies. 1 Petagram (Pg) =  $10^{15}$  grams (g).**











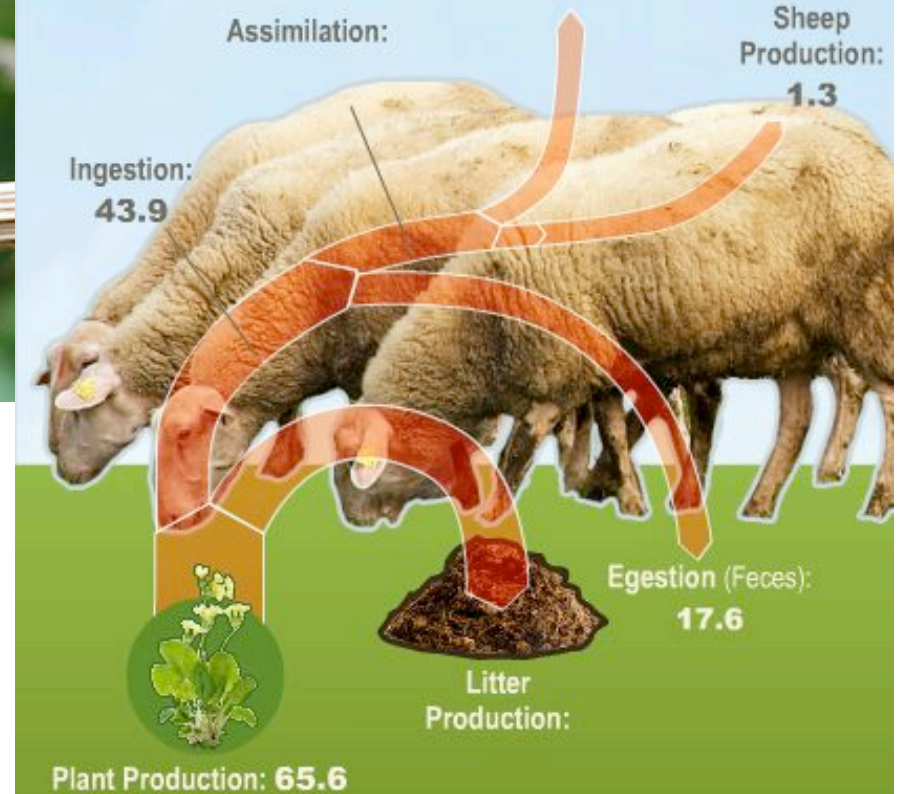
FLUXES (GJ/yr/ha)

Respiration:

Assimilation:

Ingestion:  
43.9

Sheep  
Production:  
1.3



EFFICIENCIES

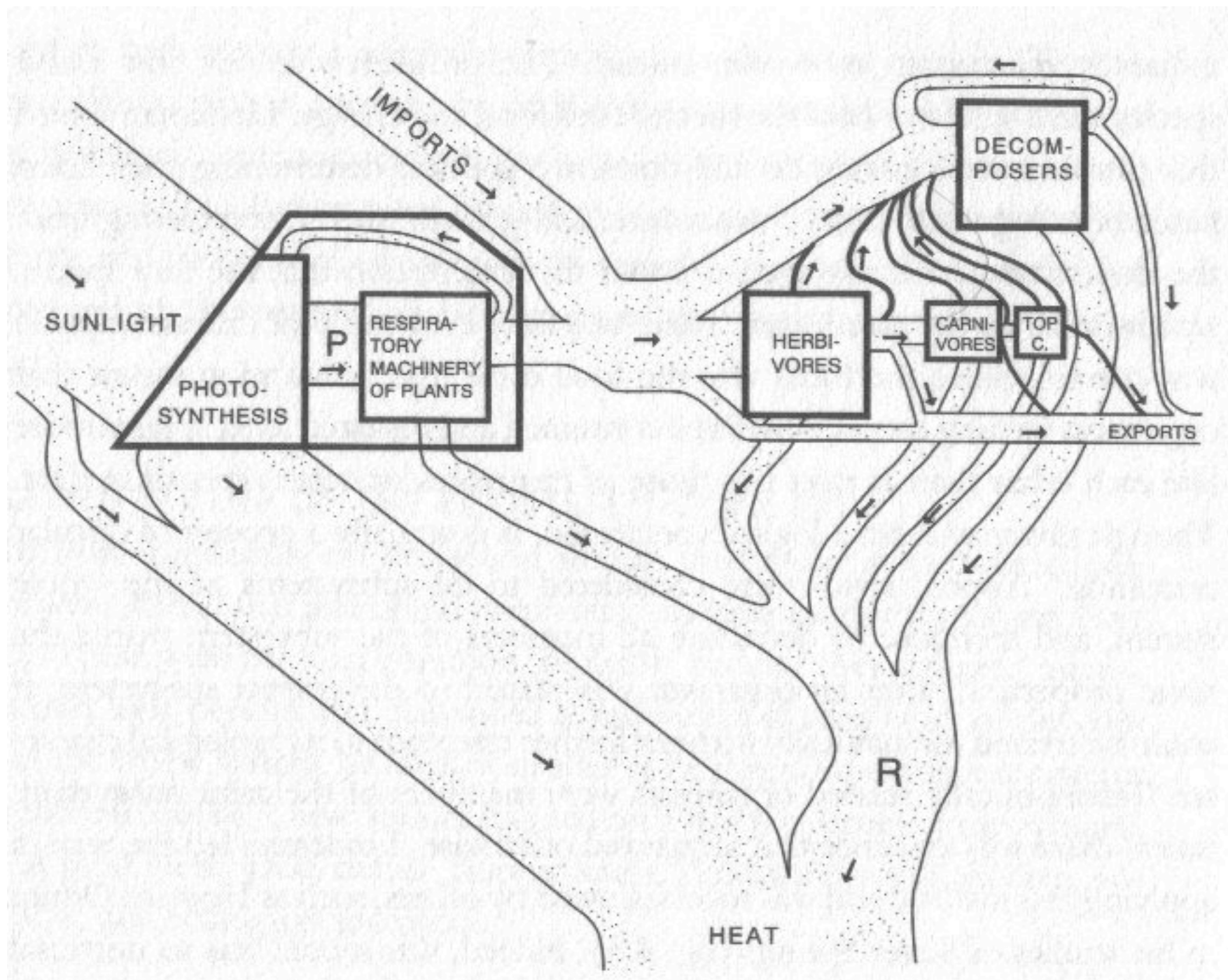
$$CE = \frac{I_{\text{sheep}}}{P_{\text{plants}}} =$$

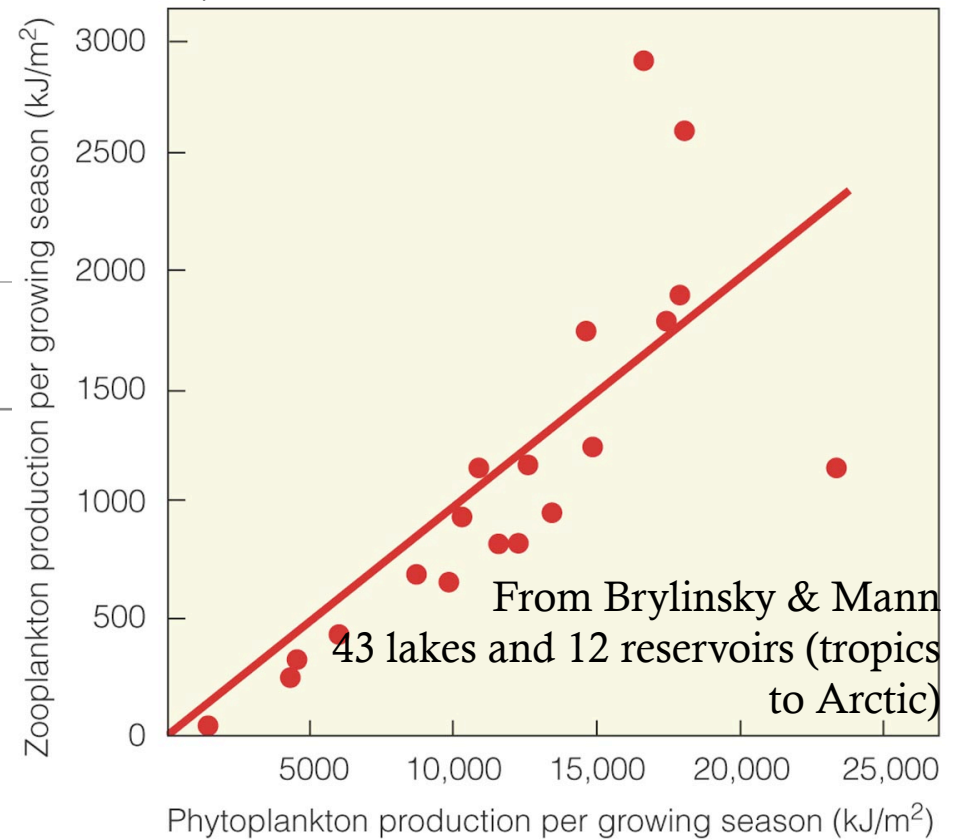
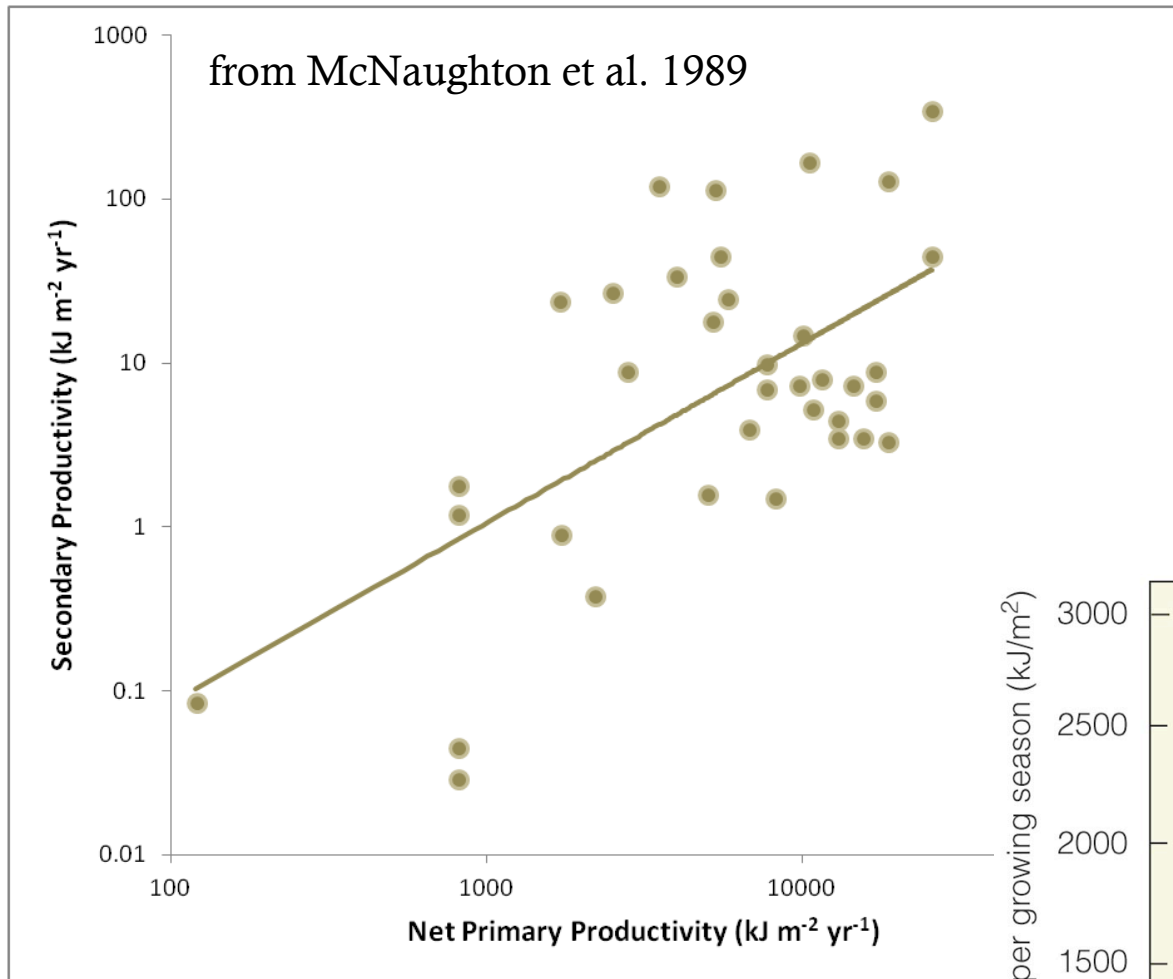
$$AE = \frac{A_{\text{sheep}}}{I_{\text{sheep}}} =$$

$$PE = \frac{P_{\text{sheep}}}{A_{\text{sheep}}} =$$

$$TE = \frac{P_{\text{sheep}}}{P_{\text{plants}}} =$$







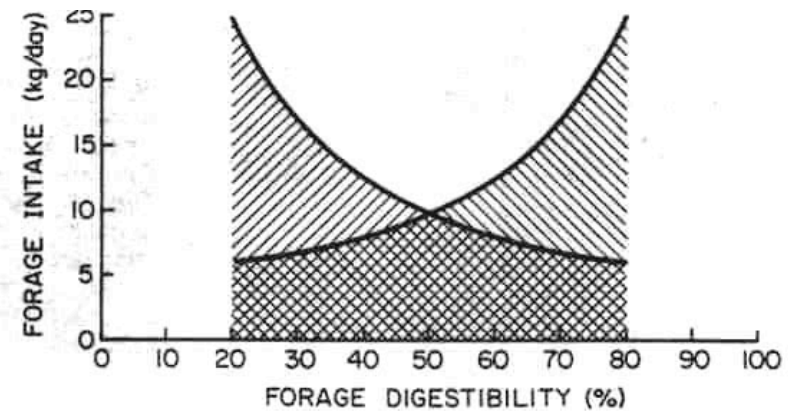
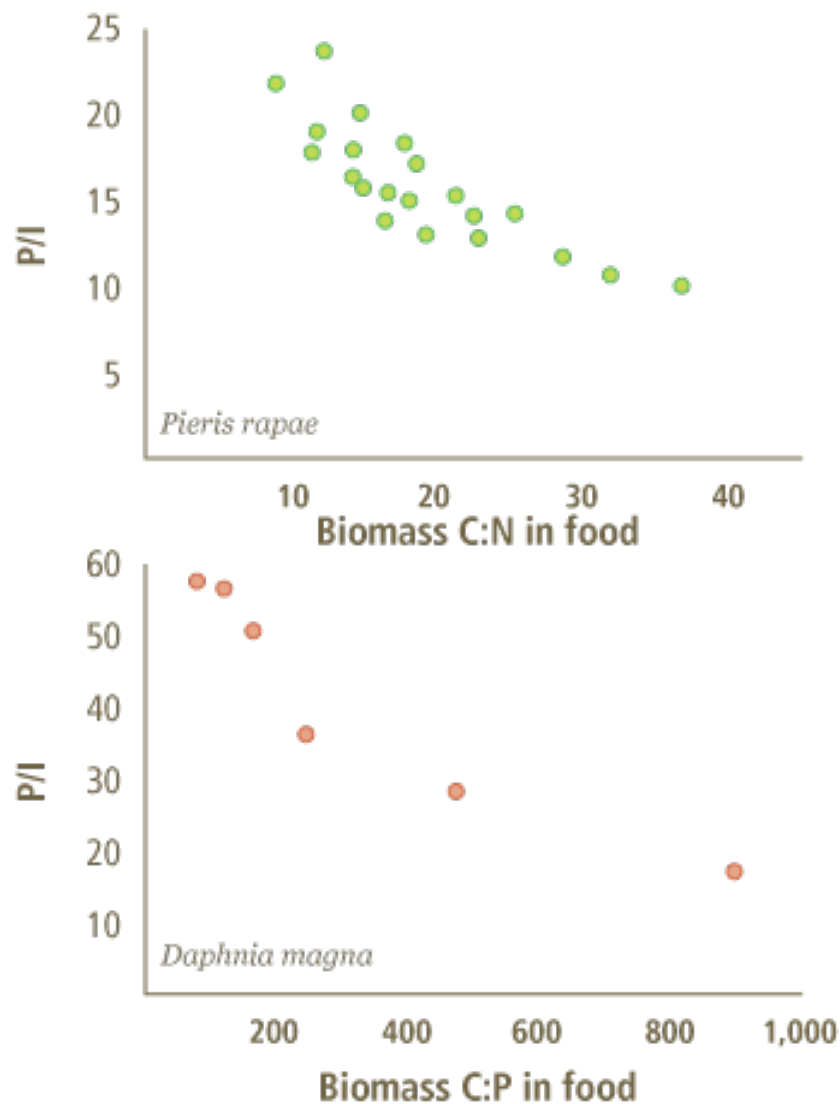


Figure 2.13. Relationship between forage digestibility and long-term forage intake patterns. The descending curve shows the required forage intake to yield 5 kg of digestible dry matter as forage digestibility increases from 20% to 80%. The ascending curve depicts the maximum possible (approximate) forage intake by an adult cow as forage digestibility increases.

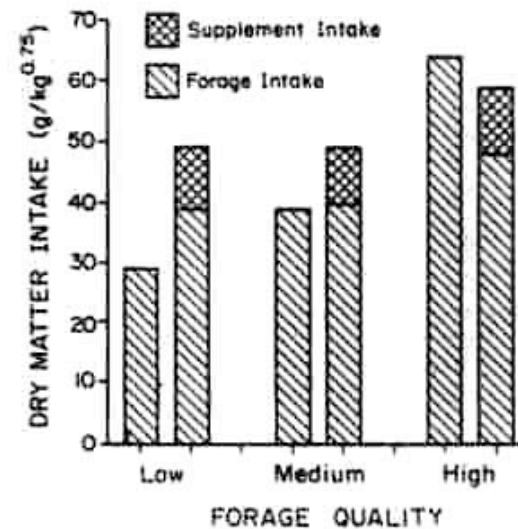
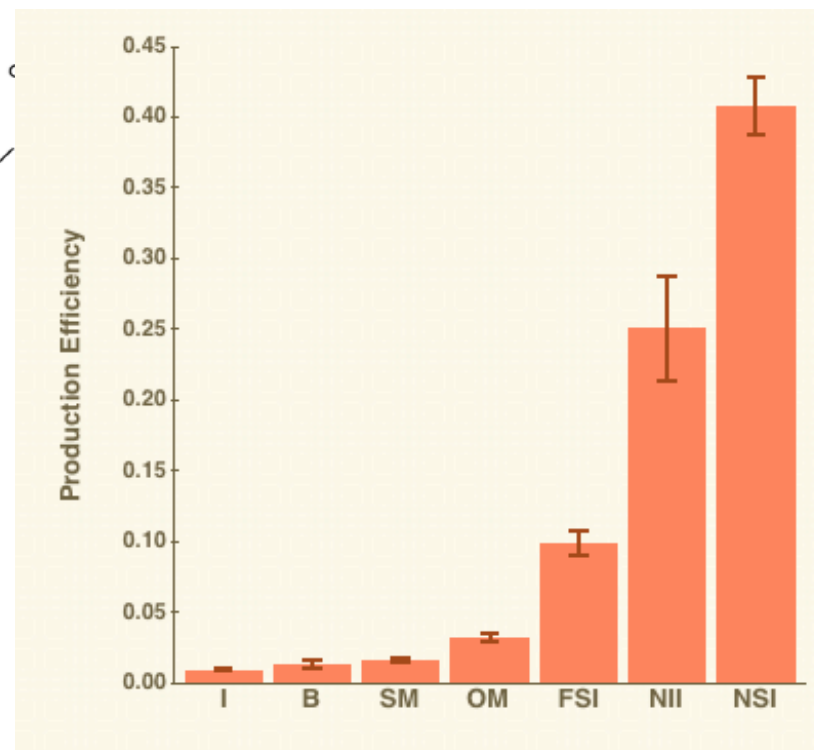
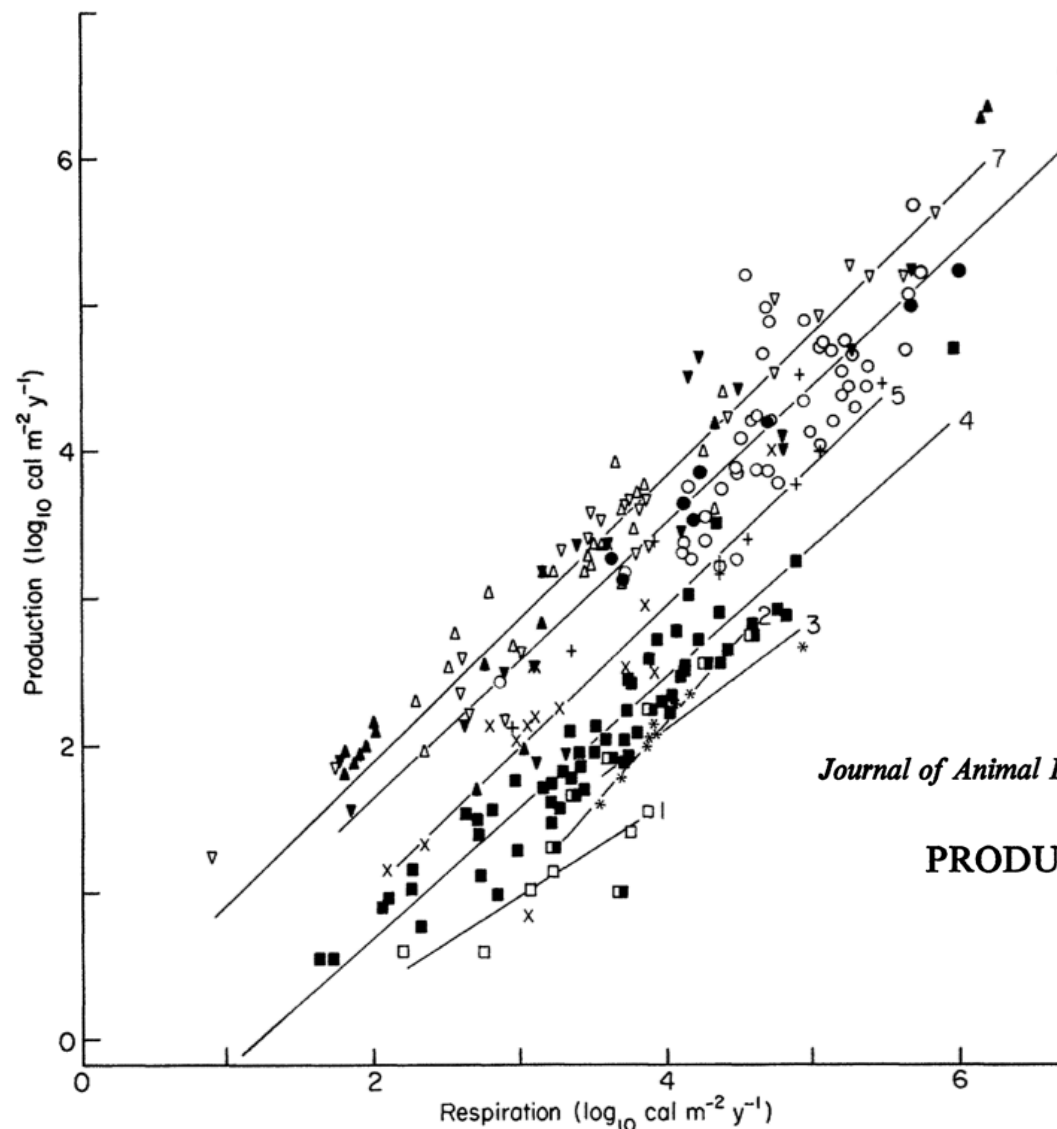


Figure 2.14. Effect of forage quality on intake responses to supplemental feeding. This is the result of an experiment in which sheep were offered forages of different quality ad libitum either with or without supplemental feed (Huston et al. 1988). The low-, medium- and high-quality forages were wheat straw (3.4% CP and 41% IVDMD), sorghum hay (5.9% CP and 54% IVDMD), and oat hay (13.8% CP and 65% IVDMD), respectively. The supplement contained 28% CP and approximately 3.3 Mcal/kg DE. Supplement feeding level provided 60 g CP per sheep per day.



*Journal of Animal Ecology* (1979), **48**, 427–453

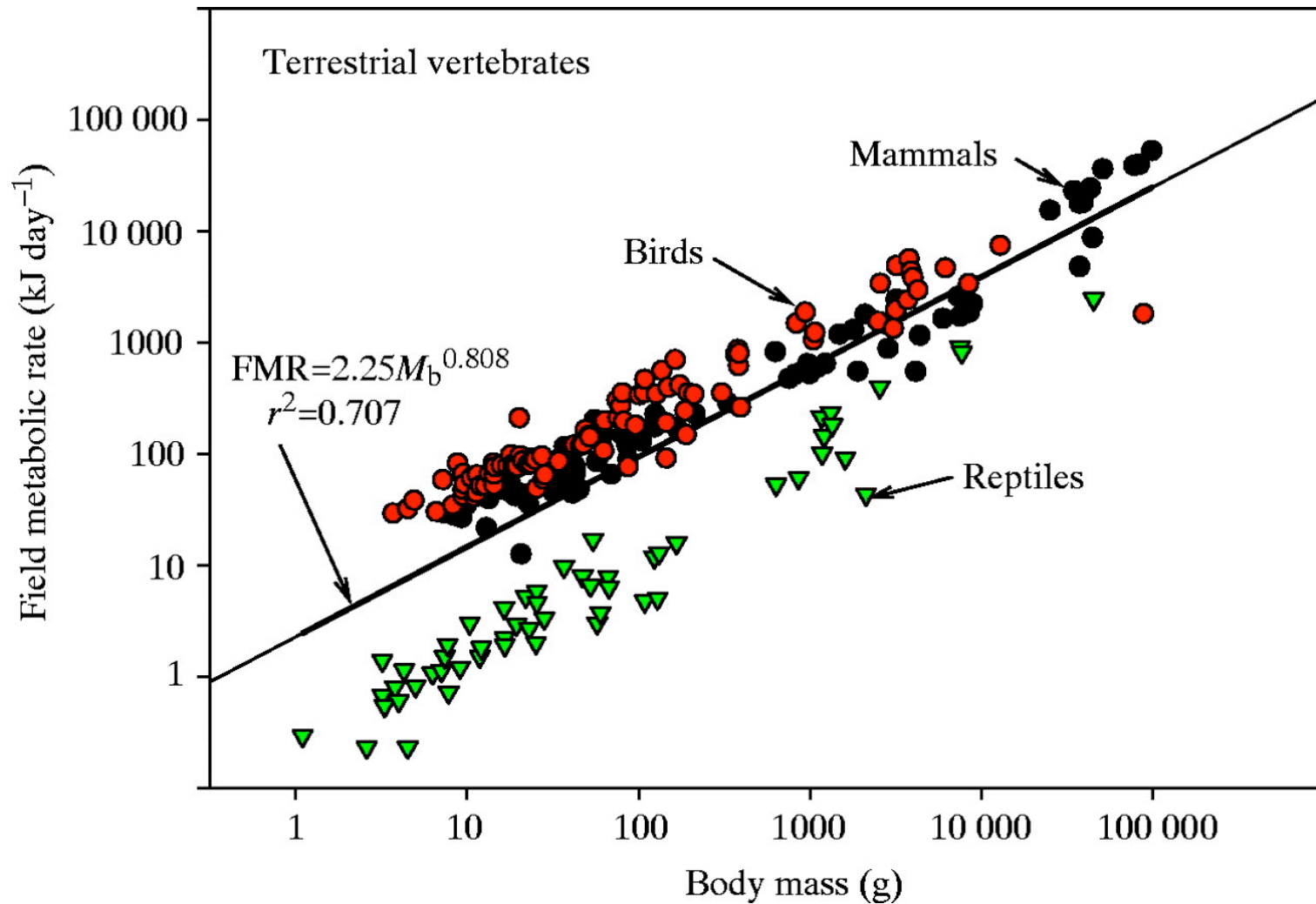
## PRODUCTION AND RESPIRATION IN ANIMAL POPULATIONS

By W. F. HUMPHREYS

FIG. 1. The relationship between respiration and production (both as  $\log_{10} \text{ cal m}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$ ) in natural populations of animals. The regression lines, not adjusted for common slope, for the seven derived groups (Table 2) are shown. The points for *Perognathus penicillatis* and *P. baileyi* (Appendix) are not plotted. The lines are numbered 1 = insectivores, 2 = small mammal communities, 3 = birds, 4 = other mammals, 5 = fish and social insects, 6 = non-insect invertebrates and 7 = non-social insects. The symbols denote:  $\square$  insectivores,  $\blacksquare$  small mammal communities,  $\blacksquare$  other mammals,  $*$  birds,  $+$  fish,  $\times$  social insects,  $\circ$  molluscs,  $\bullet$  Crustacea,  $\blacktriangledown$  other non-insect invertebrates,  $\triangle$  Orthoptera,  $\blacktriangle$  Hemiptera,  $\triangledown$  other non-social insects.

Mean production efficiency and standard error of major consumer groups: insectivores (I), birds (B), small mammals (SM), other mammals (OM), fish and social insects (FSI), non-insect invertebrates (NII), and non-social insects (NSI). Adapted from

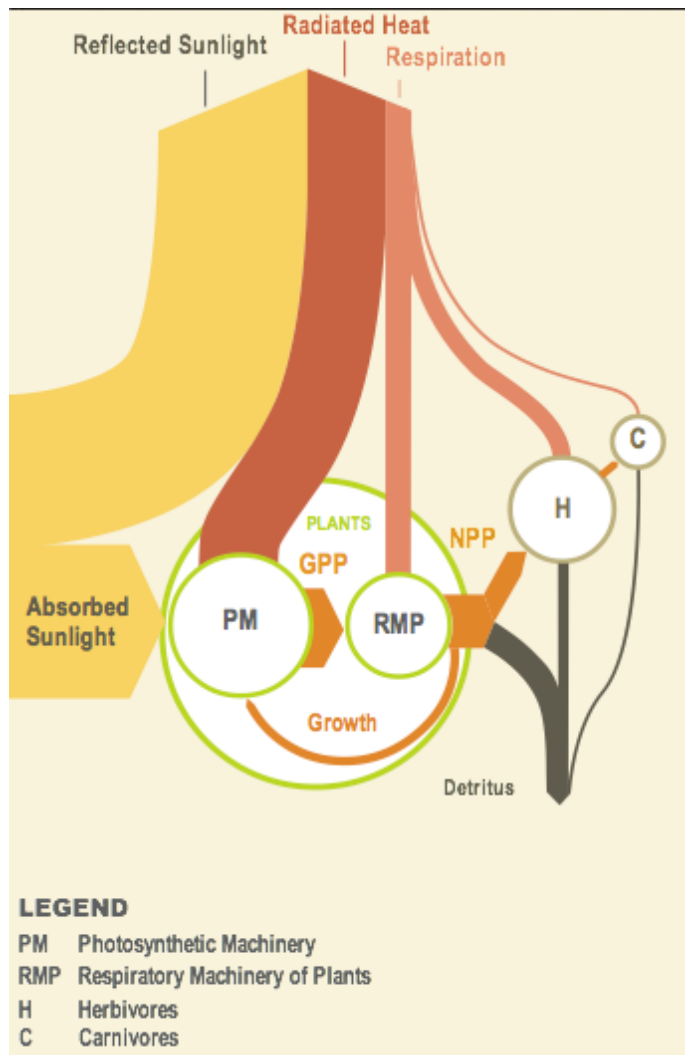
**Log-log relationship of field metabolic rate to body mass in 229 species of terrestrial vertebrates.**

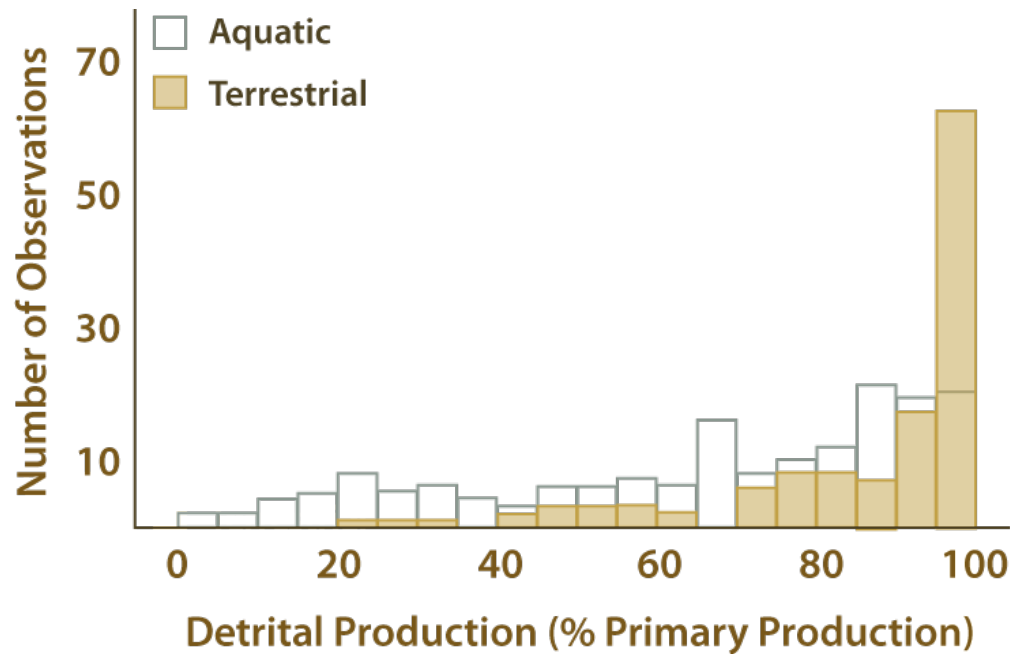


Nagy K A J Exp Biol 2005;208:1621-1625

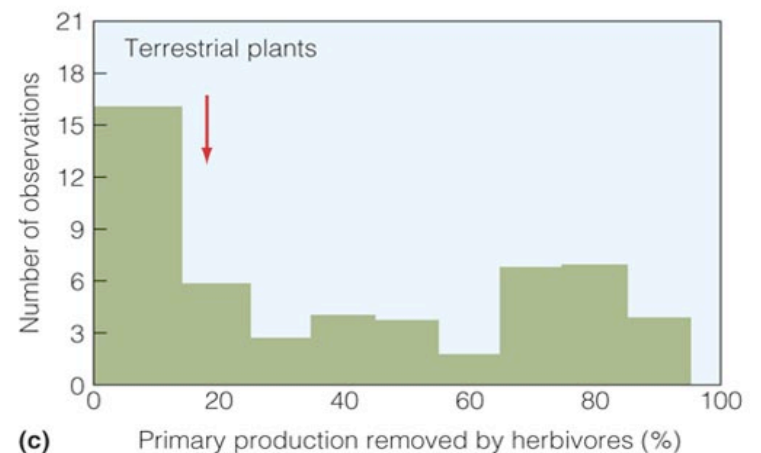
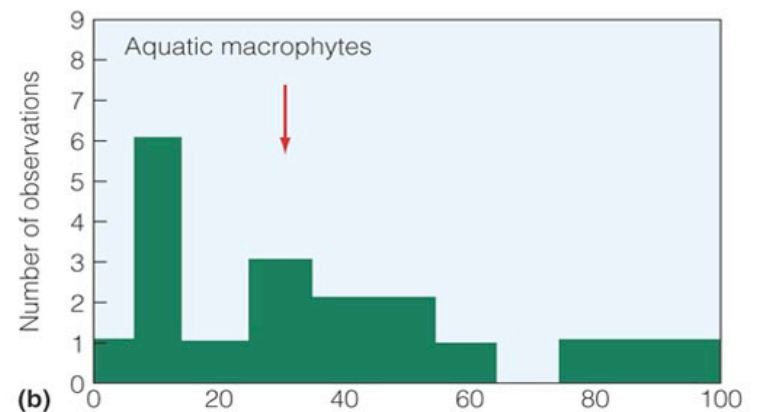
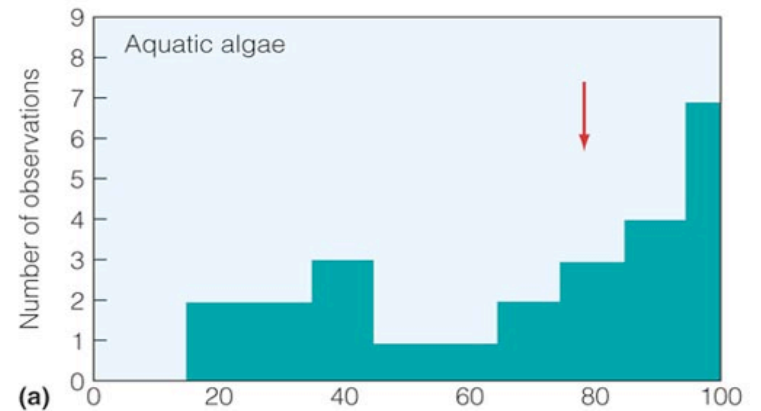
The Journal of  
**Experimental  
Biology**



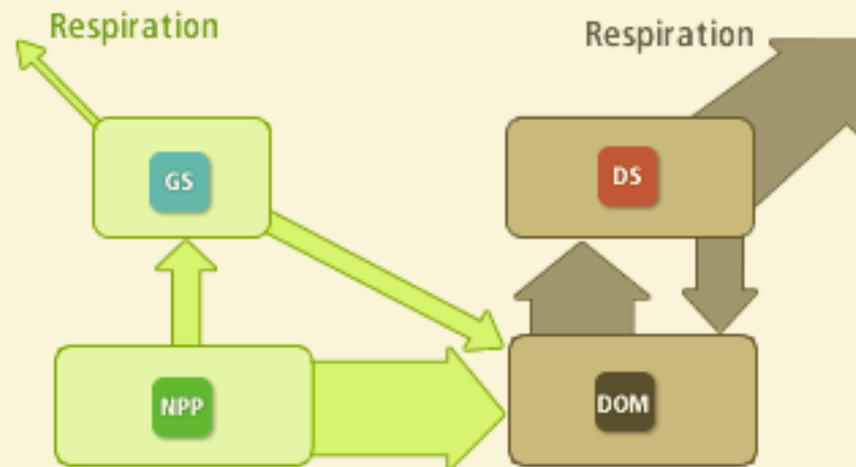




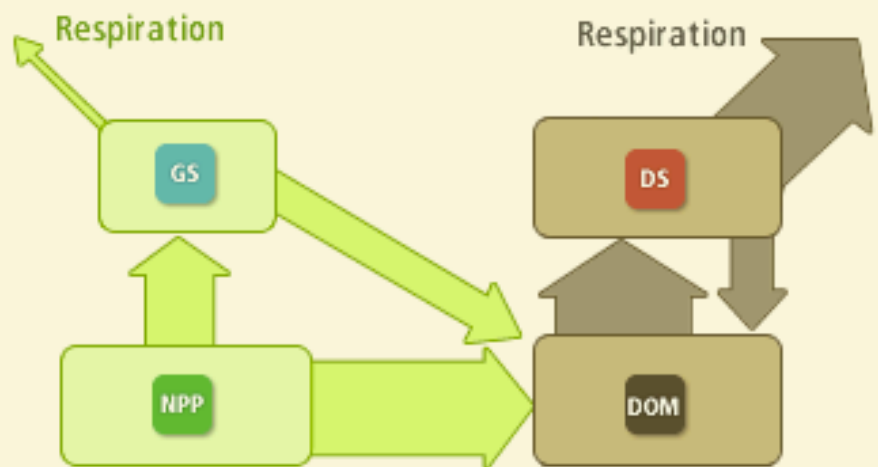
∞ The percentage of NPP that enters the decomposer system for a range of different terrestrial (shaded) and aquatic (clear) ecosystems. For the majority of terrestrial systems, well over half of primary production enters the detrital component. Overall, in aquatic systems, a greater percentage of primary production ends up being consumed by herbivores. (Redrawn from Cebrian and Lartigue, 2004.)



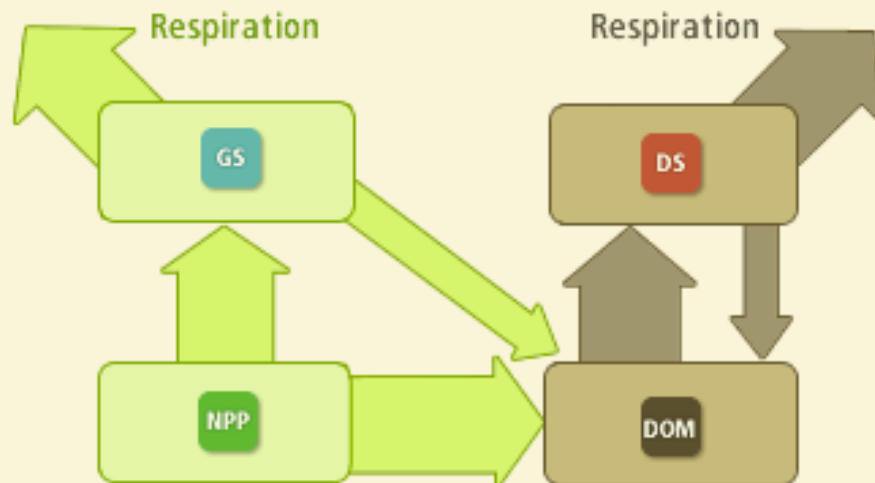
## Forest



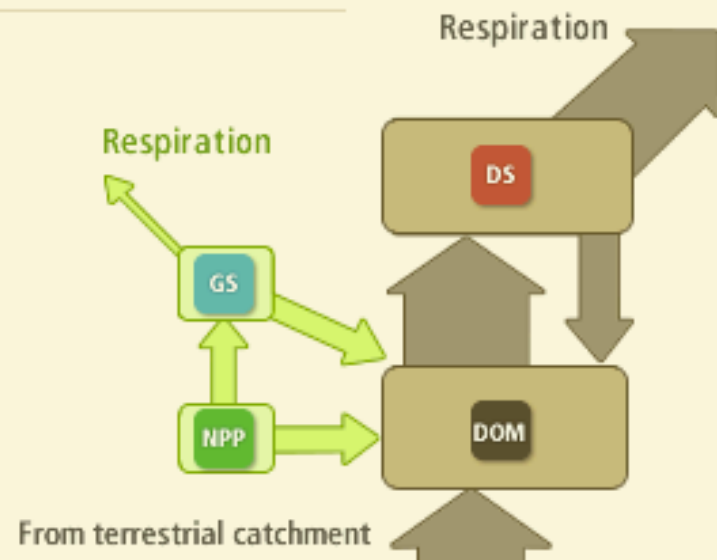
## Grassland



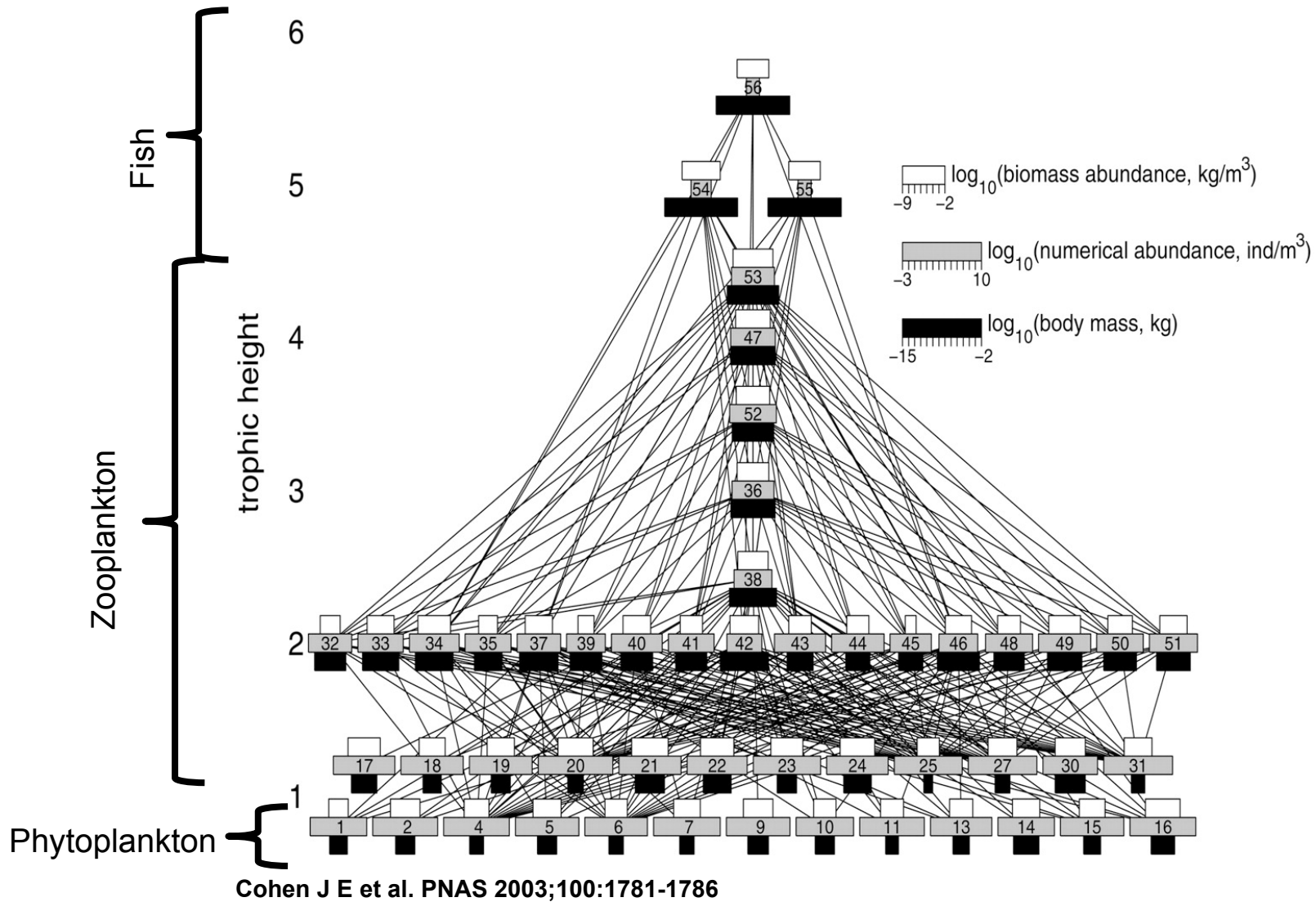
## Lake

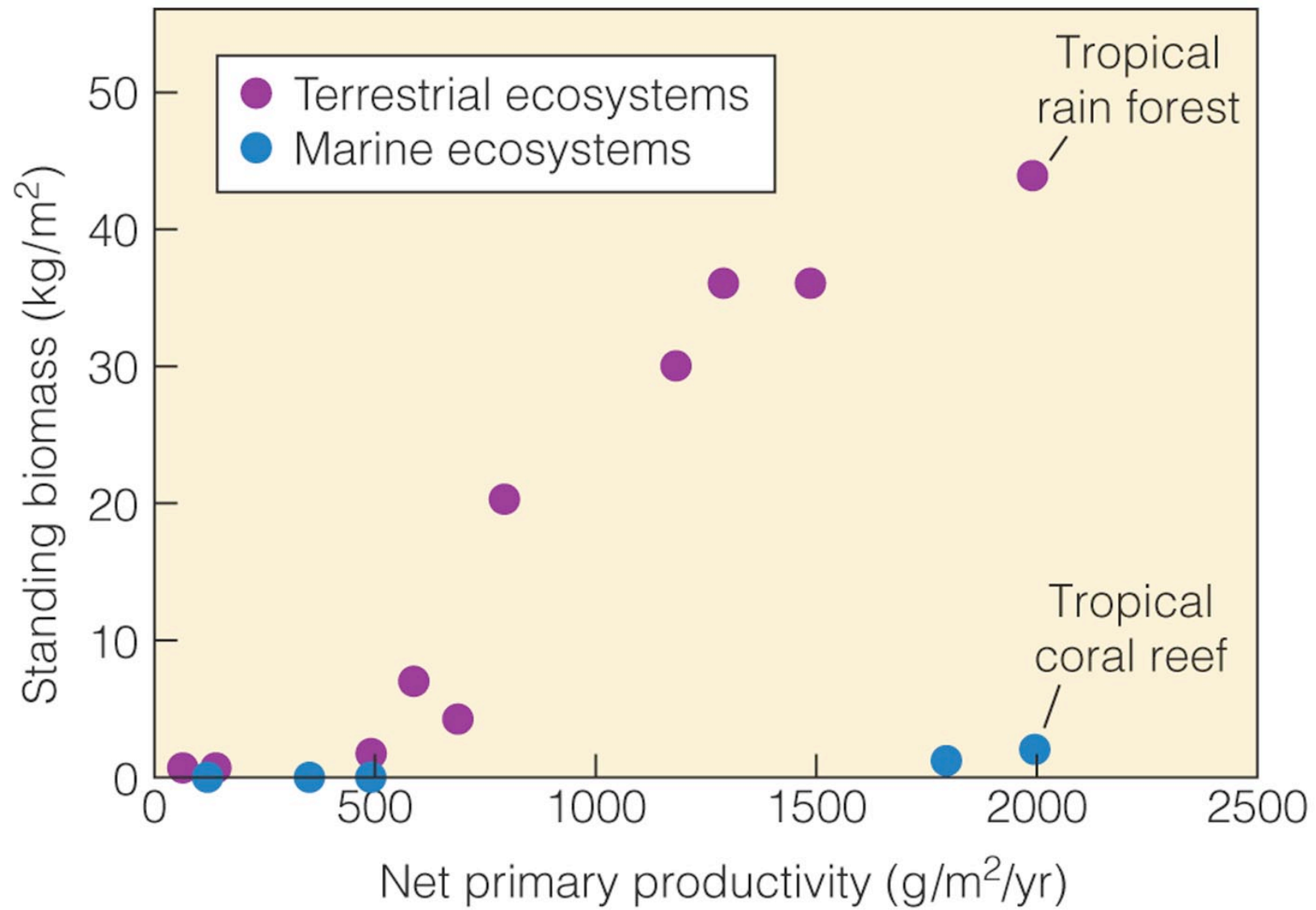


## Stream

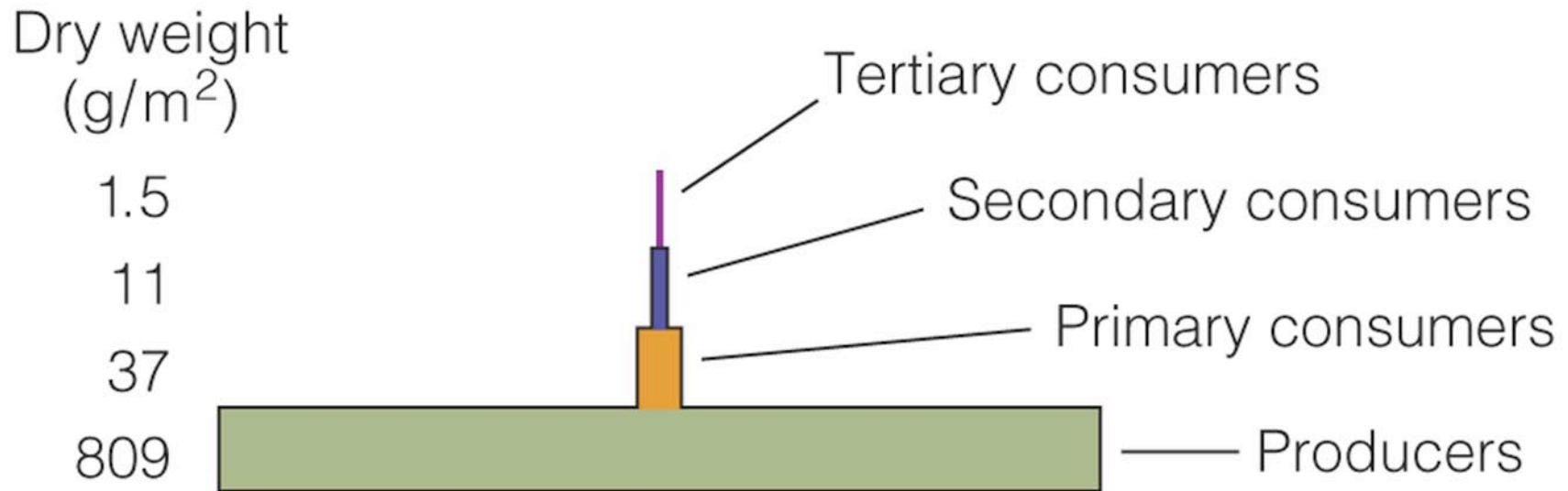


## The food web of Tuesday Lake in 1984.

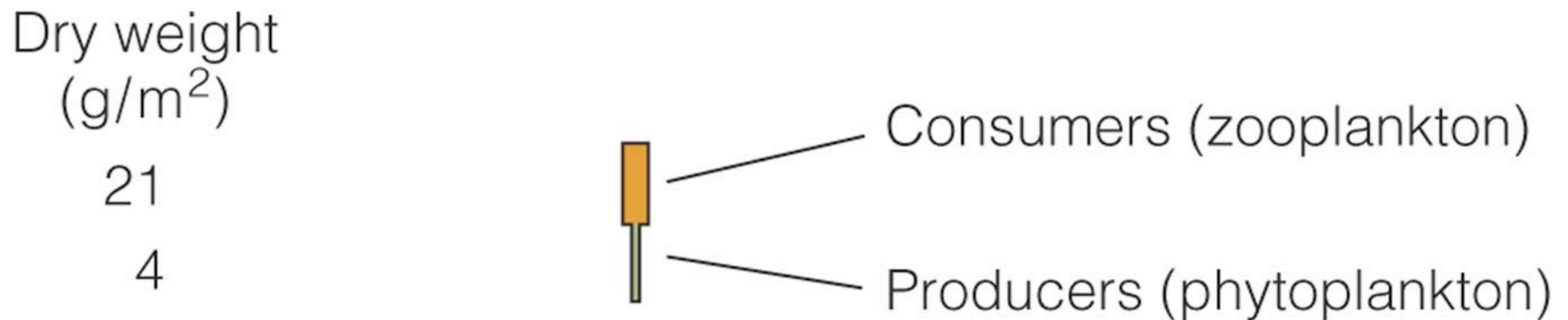




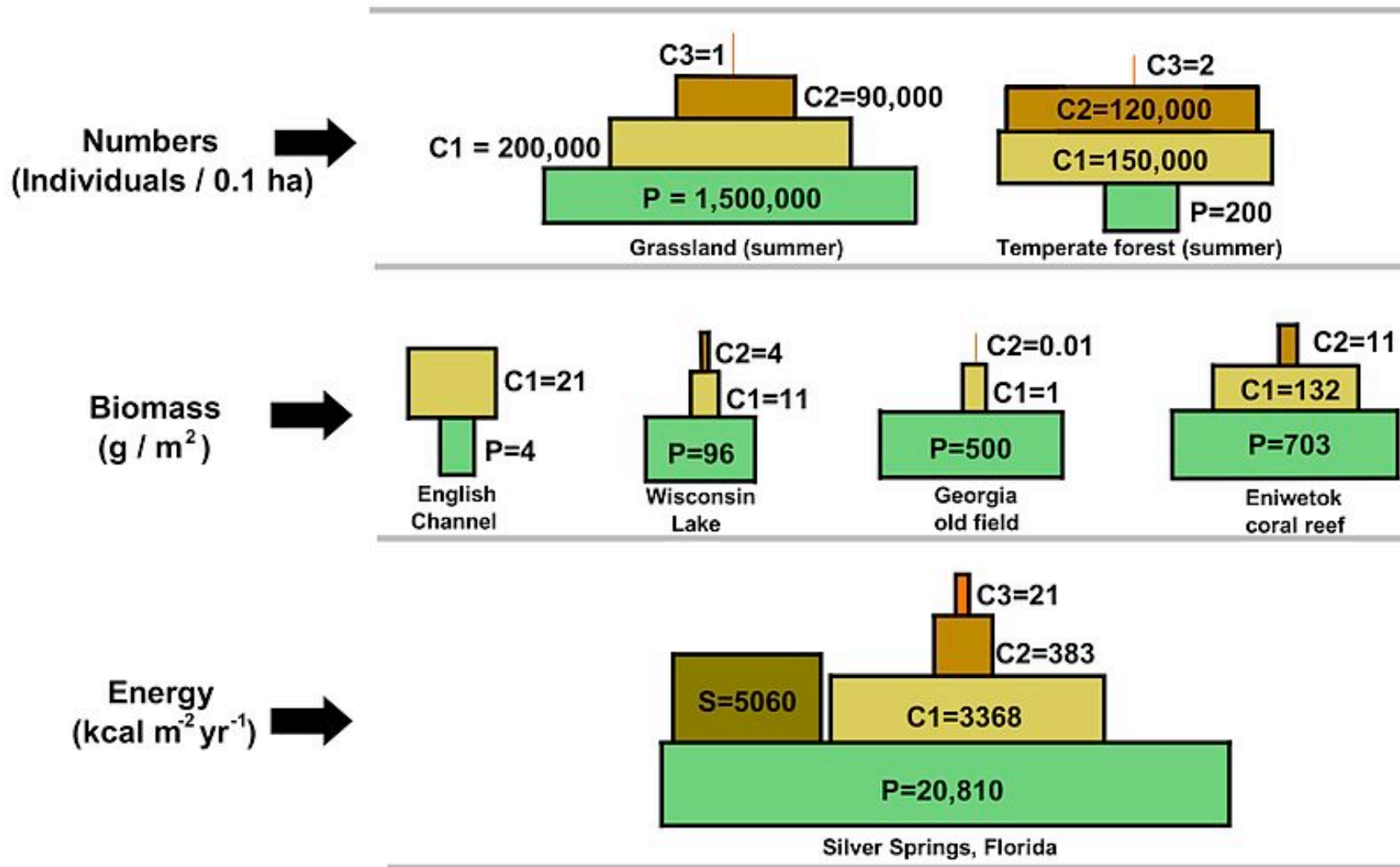




**(a) Florida bog**



**(b) English Channel**



The illustration is not drawn to scale and is redrawn from figure 3-12 in (2005) Fundamentals of ecology, Brooks Cole, pp. 598 ISBN: 9780534420666. , which is based on published experimental data. Notation: P=Producer, C1=primary consumer, C2=secondary consumer, C3=tertiary consumer, S=saprotroph  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food\\_web](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_web)

## ENERGY

## BIOMASS

## NUMBERS

### GRASSLAND



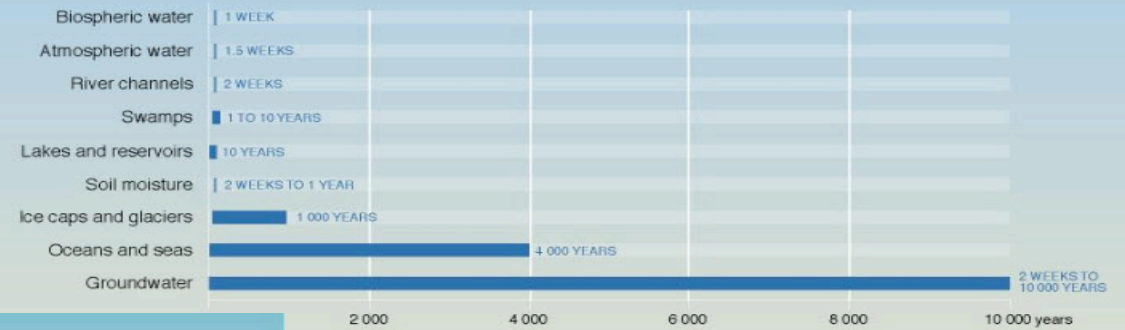
### FOREST



### OPEN OCEAN



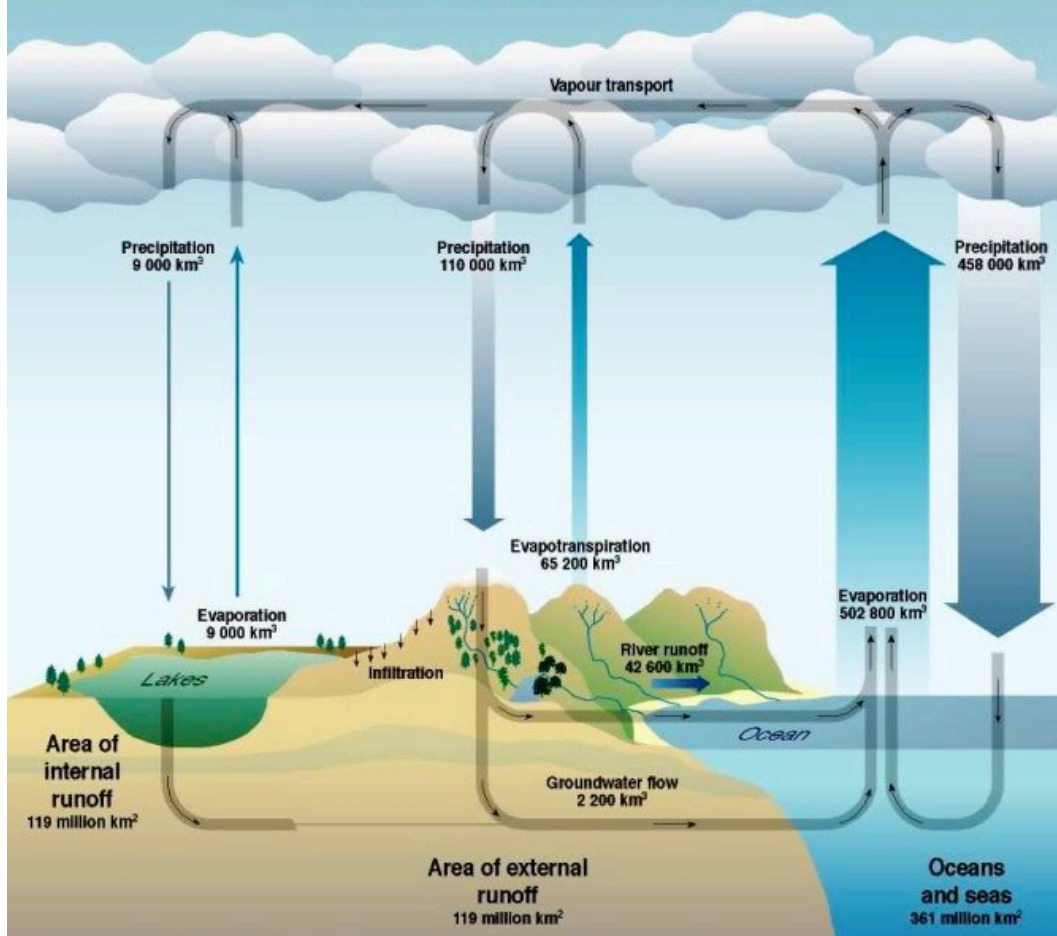
## Estimated Residence Times of the World's Water Resources



PHILIPPE DEVIANCE  
APRIL 2008

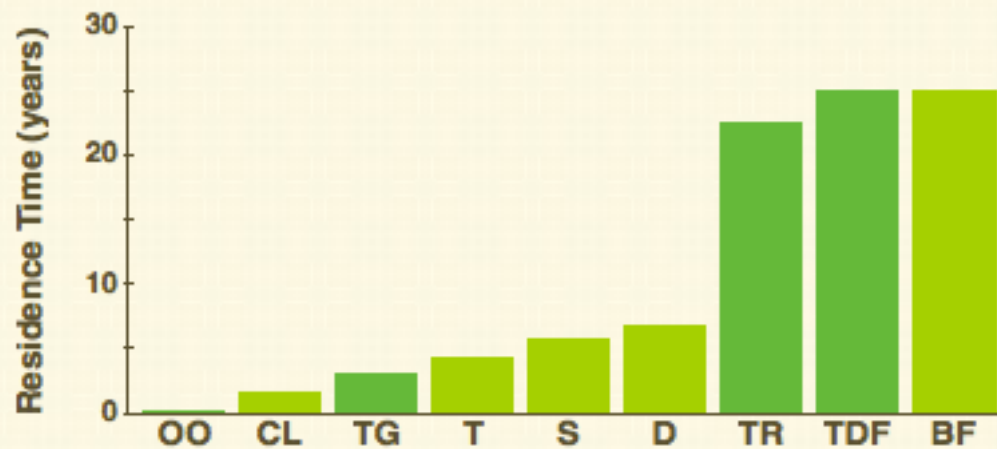
## The World's Water Cycle

### Global Precipitation, Evaporation, Evapotranspiration and Runoff



**Note:** The width of the blue and grey arrows are proportional to the volumes of transported water

Source: Igor A. Shiklomanov, State Hydrological Institute (SHI, St. Petersburg) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO, Paris), 1999; Max Planck, Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, 1994; Freeze, Allen, John, Cherry, Groundwater, Prentice-Hall: Engle wood Cliffs NJ, 1979.



Biomass residence times of open ocean (OO), cultivated land (CL), temperate grassland (TG), tundra (T), savanna (S), desert (D), tropical rainforest (TR), temperate deciduous forest (TDF), and boreal forest (BF). Adapted from [Whittaker and Likens \(1973\)](#).



# Ecosystem connectivity and impacts on ecosystem services from human activities

