

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements (text-figures)</i>		ix
1 Introduction		1
1.1 Scope		1
1.2 Historical background		4
1.3 Environmental conditions influenced by tropical latitude		7
2 Environmental transfers in space and time		8
2.1 Energy balance		8
2.2 Water balance		17
2.3 Water movements		27
2.4 Chemical balance		46
(a) Input–output: pathways and fluxes		46
(b) Chemical budgets (mass balances)		65
3 Resource utilization and biological production		82
3.1 Primary utilization: energy		82
(a) Underwater light penetration and interception		83
(b) Depth-profiles of photosynthesis		89
(c) Photosynthetic characteristics		94
(d) Losses: surface inhibition and respiration		97
(e) Rates per unit area		100
(f) Mathematical models		108
(g) Efficiencies		109
(h) Non-planktonic systems: microphytobenthos and macrophytes		112
3.2 Primary utilization: nutrients		117
(a) Nutrient uptake and environmental availability		118
(b) Element composition of biomass		121
(c) Fluxes of uptake and regeneration		124
(d) Limiting nutrients		132
3.3 Secondary utilization		140
(a) Food acquisition		140
(b) Food assimilation and use		146
(c) Production–biomass relationships		153
(d) Rates of production per unit area		160
3.4 Decomposition and recycling		163
3.5 Food webs		170
(a) Food chains and food webs		170
(b) ‘Pyramids’ of biomass		175
(c) Fluxes in simpler food chains		177
(d) Quantitative models of food webs		180
(e) Fish yield related to primary production		183
(f) Chemical tracers		185

4	Patterns of environmental change with time	188
4.1	Quantitative characterizations of time-variability	189
4.2	The diel (24 hour) cycle: radiation control and environmental consequences	191
4.3	The annual cycle: control by radiation, water and wind regimes	193
	(a) Radiation regime dominance	194
	(b) Water regime dominance	204
	(c) Interaction between the radiation, water and wind regimes	212
	(d) Approach to the aseasonal aquatic environment	217
4.4	Cycles with other periodicities	218
4.5	Long-term and aperiodic change	222
	(a) Climate and hydrological balance	224
	(b) Climate and stratification regime	229
	(c) Other trends and singular changes	231
5	Reactive components of time-variability	232
5.1	Chemical components	232
	(a) Major ionic constituents	233
	(b) Major plant nutrients	235
	(c) The gases O ₂ and CO ₂	241
	(d) Reduced chemical species	244
	(e) Organic matter	245
5.2	Biological components	246
	(a) General	246
	(b) Heterotrophic bacteria	252
	(c) Aquatic macrophytes	254
	(d) Phytomicrobenthos	259
	(e) Phytoplankton	261
	(f) Zooplankton	274
	(g) Zoobenthos	284
	(h) Fishes	294
	(i) Air-breathing vertebrates	307
5.3	Rates of biological production	312
5.4	Biological diversity	321
5.5	Systems	325
	(a) Interactions of cyclic systems in time	325
	(b) Systems of associated time-courses	330
6	Concluding: tropical distinctiveness	343
	Appendix A Sources of regional information	348
	Appendix B Name changes and synonymy	350
	Appendix C Quantities, units and conversion factors	352
	Appendix D Symbols used in the text	355
	<i>References</i>	359
	<i>Index to water-bodies</i>	427
	<i>General index</i>	432