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Elizabeth M. Wood
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New Studies in Biology

Subtidal Ecology

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General Preface to the Series

Recent advances in biology have made it increasingly difficult for both students and teachers to keep abreast of all the new developments in so wide-ranging a subject. The New Studies in Biology, originating from an initiative of the Institute of Biology, are published to facilitate resolution of this problem. Each text provides a synthesis of a field and gives the reader an authoritative overview of the subject without unnecessary detail.

The Studies series originated 20 years ago but its vigour has been maintained by the regular production of new editions and the introduction of additional titles as new themes become clearly identified. It is appropriate for the New Studies in their refined format to appear at a time when the public at large has become conscious of the beneficial applications of knowledge from the whole spectrum from molecular to environmental biology. The new series is set to provide as great a boon to the new generation of students as the original series did to their fathers.

1986

Institute of Biology
20 Queensberry Place
London SW7 2DZ

Preface

The ecology of the seashore around the British Isles, that unique zone of transition between land and sea, has been studied in great detail and described in many publications. The sublittoral shelf beyond it, although considerably more extensive, has received less attention, partly because of the practical difficulties of working in submerged habitats. However, it is an area rich in natural resources of significant economic and biological value, and is also of considerable educational and recreational interest to a growing number of people. I hope that this book will be a stimulus not only to all those who venture down and into the sea, but also those who prefer to view it from dry land.

1987

E.M.W.

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