



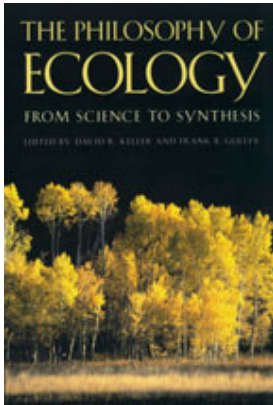
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## The Philosophy of Ecology

### From Science to Synthesis

David R. Keller and Frank B. Golley, eds.

Readings in the foundational concepts of the science of ecology



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This is the first introductory anthology on the philosophy of ecology edited by an ecologist and a philosopher. It illustrates the range of philosophical approaches available to ecologists and provides a basis for understanding the thinking on which many of today's environmental ideas are founded. Collectively, these seminal readings make a powerful statement on the value of ecological knowledge and thinking in alleviating the many problems of modern industrial civilization. Issues covered include \*the challenges of defining scientific ecology, tracing its genealogy, and distinguishing the science from various forms of "ecological-like" thinking; \*the ontology of ecological entities and processes; \*selected concepts of community, stability, diversity, and niche; \*the methodology of ecology (rationalism and empiricism, reductionism and holism); and \* the significance of evolutionary law for ecological science.

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