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Life Sciences : Plant Physiology

Gil-Peigrín, E., Peguero-Pina, J.J., Sancho-Knapik, D. (Eds.)

Oaks Physiological Ecology. Exploring the Functional Diversity of Genus Quercus L.

- Deals with a highly relevant topic: the functional diversity and ecophysiology of oaks, which is an important tree group of the Northern Hemisphere
- The first comprehensive review of the knowledge of genus Quercus
- Most of its ca. 100 figures offer new conclusions from meta-analysis of previously published data
- Addresses a wide audience including graduate students, teachers, scientists and professionals dealing with forestry, plant ecophysiology, oak biodiversity and taxonomy and Biogeography of genus Quercus

With more than 500 species distributed all around the Northern Hemisphere, the genus Quercus L. is a dominant element of a wide variety of habitats including temperate, tropical, subtropical and mediterranean forests and woodlands. As the fossil record reflects, oaks were usual from the Oligocene onwards, showing the high ability of the genus to colonize new and different habitats. Such diversity and ecological amplitude makes genus Quercus an excellent framework for comparative ecophysiological studies, allowing the analysis of many mechanisms that are found in different oaks at different level (leaf or stem). The combination of several morphological and physiological attributes defines the existence of different functional types within the genus, which are characteristic of specific phytoclimates.

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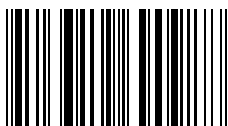
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