

BOOK REVIEW

HANSSON L. (ed.): ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES OF NATURE CONSERVATION (CONSERVATION ECOLOGY SERIES: PRINCIPLES, PRACTICES AND MANAGEMENT). Elsevier Applied Science, London & New York, 1992, xviii + 436 pp. ISBN 1-85166-718-0. Hardcover. Price GBP 80.-.

An understanding of the science of conservation ecology is now widely acknowledged to be essential for the planning and development of activities, which may change or modify our natural environment. However, despite much research and publicity, there is still a considerable gap between theory and practice. Today it is especially important to bridge this gap by interpreting and simplifying the results of ecological research so that they become more understandable and relevant to a wider range of people working on the many aspects of nature protection.

This volume is the first in the series entitled *Conservation ecology series: Principles, practices*

and management, now being published by Elsevier. The eleven chapters cover a wide range of environmental disciplines and the principles discussed here are widely applicable in many parts of the world, including temperate regions. The book is largely a result of a research programme at the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

For an entomologist, the especially relevant parts are those on metapopulation dynamics, dispersal, species changes in forested and open wetland complexes and animal communities, all of which deal with insects. A lot of attention is devoted to insect flight and migration, both at the individual and population levels and to the role of migration in the population dynamics of insects.

Although the book may be rather difficult to understand for nature conservationists like land managers, agriculturists or foresters, it is a good read for the more theoretically oriented person in this field.

P. Kindlmann