

Ecosystem Summary

- ❖ The interaction between biotic and abiotic components in an environment is called ecosystem. Autotrophs and heterotrophs are the producers and consumers respectively.
- ❖ The function of ecosystem refers to creation of energy, flow of energy and cycling of nutrients.
- ❖ The amount of light available for photosynthesis is called Photo synthetically Active Radiation . It is essential for increase in the productivity of ecosystem.
- ❖ The rate of biomass production per unit area /time is called productivity. It is classified as primary productivity, secondary productivity and community productivity.
- ❖ The transfer of energy in an ecosystem can be termed as energy flow. It is explained through the food chain, food web , ecological pyramids (pyramid of number, biomass and energy) and biogeochemical cycle.

- ❖ Cycling of nutrients between abiotic and biotic components is evident in the pond ecosystem, making itself self sufficient and self regulating Ecosystem protected for the welfare of posterity is called ecosystem management.
- ❖ Successive replacement of one type of plant community by the other of the same area/ place is known as plant succession.
- ❖ The first invaded plants in a barren (nude) area are called pioneers (pioneers communities). On the other hand, a series of transitional developments of plant communities one after another in a given area are called seral communities.
- ❖ Succession is classified as primary succession, secondary succession, autogenic succession, allogenic succession, autotrophic succession and heterotrophic succession.
- ❖ Plant succession is classified in to hydrosere (Initiating on a water bodies) ,Mesosere and xerosere. Further xerosere is subdivided in to Lithosere (Initiating on a barren rock), Halosere and Pasmmosere.