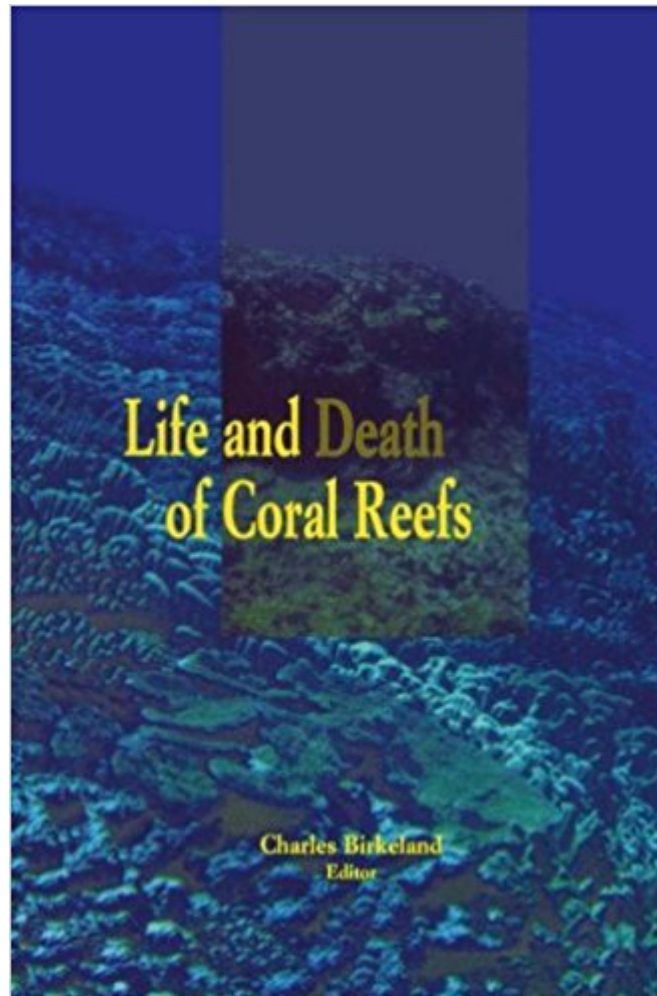# Life And Death Of Coral Reefs

Synopsis

Charles Birkeland Living coral is a thin veneer, measured in millimeters. Yet this thin film of living tissue has shaped the face of the Earth by creating limestone structures sometimes over 1,300 m thick from the surface down to its base on volcanic rock (Enewetak Atoll), or over 2,000 km long (Great Barrier Reef). About half the world's coastlines are in the tropics and about a third of the tropical coastlines are made of coral reef. Archipelagoes of hundreds of atolls such as the Marshalls, the Maldives, the Tuamotus, and most of the Carolines and Kiribati have been fonned by coral. In addition to enlarging high islands (such as the entire northern end of Guam) and extending and protecting coastlines, ancient biogenic reefs have fonned even larger areas on the present continents. Shallow living coral 2 reefs are estimated to presently cover over 600,000 km (Smith, 1978). Coral reefs are dynamic systems, producing limestone at the rate of 400-2,000 tons per hectare per year (Chave et al. , 1972). The Great Barrier Reef dominates 2 230,000 km and has grown to this size in a geologically brief period of a few million years. Coral reefs influence the chemical balance of the world's oceans. Roughly half the calcium that enters the sea each year around the world, from the north to south poles, is taken up and temporarily bound into coral reefs (Smith, 1978).

Book Information

Hardcover: 536 pages

Publisher: Springer; 1997 edition (January 31, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0412035413

ISBN-13: 978-0412035418

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,806,271 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #68 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Ecosystems > Coral Reefs   #353 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Lakes & Ponds   #942 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Oceans & Seas > Oceanography

Customer Reviews

This is a basic and comprehensive book about the processes that affect coral reefs. Exelent edition by Birkeland, includes some of the most restpectable scientists in the field. the book includes

plentiful references very useful if you need to start a search in any of the topics included in the book.

This is a good book, a classic for anyone studying the science of coral reefs. All reef scientists need a copy.

Download to continue reading...

Life and Death of Coral Reefs The Nature of Florida's Ocean Life : Including Coral Reefs, Gulf Stream, Sargasso Sea, and Sunken Ships J. D. Robb CD Collection 2: Rapture in Death, Ceremony in Death, Vengeance in Death (In Death Series) Pacific: Silicon Chips and Surfboards, Coral Reefs and Atom Bombs, Brutal Dictators, Fading Empires, and the Coming Collision of the World's Superpowers A Field Guide to Coral Reefs of the Caribbean and Florida Including Bermuda and the Bahamas (The Peterson Field Guide Series) Coral Reefs and Climate Change: Science and Management Coral reefs: A guide to the common invertebrates and fishes of Bermuda, the Bahamas, southern Florida, the West Indies, and the Caribbean coast of ... America (Roger Tory Peterson field guides) A Field Guide to Coral Reefs: Caribbean and Florida (Peterson Field Guides) Six Months in the Sandwich Islands: Among Hawaii's Palm Groves, Coral Reefs, and Volcanoes Encyclopedia of Modern Coral Reefs: Structure, Form and Process (Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences Series) The Hawaiian Archipelago: Six Months Among the Palm Groves, Coral Reefs and Volcanoes of the Sandwich Islands Coral Reefs of the Caribbean, The Bahamas and Florida Science Comics: Coral Reefs: Cities of the Ocean Coral Reefs National Geographic Readers: Coral Reefs Coral Reefs: In Danger (Penguin Young Readers, Level 3) The Biology of Coral Reefs (Biology of Habitats Series) Coral Reefs in the Microbial Seas World Atlas of Coral Reefs Coral Reefs: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

Dmca