

Tisdell, C.: **Economics and Ecology in Agriculture and Marine Production. Bioeconomics and Resource Use.** – Edward Elgar Publ., Glos - Northampton. ISBN 1 84376 020 7. 365 pp., GBP 65.00.

The book contains 28 chapters, the majority of which has been published as separate articles during the period from 1982 to 2001 somewhere else and only 3 of them have been added as original ones. All of the chapters have been written by Clem Tisdell, Professor of Economics, School of Economics, University of Queensland, Australia. 17 of the chapters have been co-authored by several scientists. In the Preface, the author expresses his hope, that this volume will increase the accessibility of the previously published individual articles. The chapters in this book are divided into the 4 parts: Part I presents an overview of the individual articles (Pp. 3-22). Part II is entitled "Influence of ecological conditions on agricultural production, sustainability, and economic decision". It is represented by 9 papers (Pp. 23-152). The subsequent Part III contains 11 papers devoted to: "Pest and disease control and agricultural production – bioeconomic aspects" (Pp. 153-258). The final Part IV with its 7 articles describes bioeconomic aspects of marine production (Pp. 259-360). A Name Index terminates the book.

The readers of *Photosynthetica* are familiar with the term "ecology". Let me recall the other important term from the book title and its whole content, *i.e.* "economics". According to The New Encyclopedia Britannica (Vol. 4, 1991) "Economics: the social science concerned with production, distribution, and consumption of wealth" and "economic system: set of principles and techniques by which the ownership and allocation of economic resources are decided and organized by soci-

ety". There is no doubt, that ecology has many contiguous sites with economy. These are especially important if the ecological systems are represented by crops or aquaculture. To enable the readers of *Photosynthetica* to get better insight into the book content, let me just quote some examples from the titles of the individual articles. From the Part II: "The optimal choice of a variety of a species for variable environmental conditions", "The biological law of tolerance, average biomass and production in a variable uncontrolled environment", "Agricultural sustainability and conservation of biodiversity: competing policies and paradigms". From the Part III: "Economic threshold/critical density models in weed control", "Economic impact of biological control of weeds and insects", "Genetically modified (transgenic) crops and pest control economics". And finally two examples from the Part IV: "Development of aquaculture and the environment: coastal conflicts, and giant clam farming as a case" or "Aquaculture, capture fisheries and available marine resources: ecological and economic interdependence".

As seen from these examples, the reader cannot expect any information from any field of photosynthesis. Nevertheless, this journal is also browsed by colleagues, who study production processes in the agriculture or marine production. If they are interested to know more about economic aspects of the biological production processes, then I would recommend them to consult this book.

L. NÁTR (*Praha*)