

Microclimate and Local Climate

By Roger G. Barry, Peter D. Blanken



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This book provides an up-to-date, comprehensive treatment of the variables and processes of microclimate and local climate, including radiation balance and energy balance. It describes and explains the climate within the lower atmosphere and upper soil, the region critical to life on Earth. Topics that are covered include not only the physical processes that affect microclimate, but also biological processes that affect vegetation and animals, including people. A geographic tour of the microclimates of the major ecosystems around the world is included. All major biomes and surface types, including urban areas, are examined, and the effects of climate change on microclimate are described. This book is invaluable for advanced students and researchers in climatology in departments of environmental science, geography, meteorology, agricultural science, and forestry.



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Editorial Review

Review

"A masterful overview of a fundamental topic in climatology, by two leaders in the field who provide clear explanations and an up-to-date summary of the literature. Essential reading for anybody interested in climate science."

Raymond Bradley, Director, Climate System Research Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

"... a must-have for all climate scientists, not just those working in the boundary layer or on processes at the second and meter scales ... The range of topics presented is encyclopedic, and includes in-depth discussion of urban climates, bio-climatology, agro-climatology, remote sensing approaches, and many others. Barry and Blanken have done an astounding job of knitting these many disparate yet related topics into a coherent and well-organized discussion that spans all of Earth's latitude zones and surface environments ... this ambitious book fully delivers: it is a masterpiece of knowledge, experience, insights, and data on observed climate features and modeled climate processes occurring on all scales ... For many years to come, this will be a crucial reference and textbook for climate scientists in meteorology, geography, biology and ecology, landscape and urban design, agriculture, remote sensing, and many other disciplines."

Andrew M. Carleton, Pennsylvania State University

"There are relatively few textbooks written on this topic, making this book a very welcome addition to the existing literature. ... this textbook brings the study of microclimate up to date ... it does an excellent job of linking the microclimate to the larger scale climate within which it exists."

Marilyn N. Raphael, University of California, Los Angeles

"The authors' succeed commendably in their stated goal to quantitatively integrate processes acting on the small-scale (microclimate) with those operating at the larger scale (macroclimate). ... There is much to learn from this book. ... This volume will serve well as both a senior-level textbook and as an up-to-date reference for the knowledgeable reader."

Wayne Rouse, McMaster University, Ontario

About the Author

Roger G. Barry was Director of the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) at the University of Colorado Boulder from 1977 to 2008, and Professor of Geography from 1968 to 2010. He was appointed a University of Colorado Distinguished Professor in 2004. From 2012 to 2014 he was Director of the International CLIVAR Project Office, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton. He is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union. His awards include the Founder's Medal of the Royal Geographical Society, the Nobel Peace Prize (as part of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change team), a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fulbright Fellow, a Humboldt Prize Fellow, and a Foreign Member of the Russian Academy of Environmental Sciences (RAEN). He has directed 31 Masters and 36 PhD degrees. He is the author or coauthor of more than 250 peer-reviewed papers and many textbooks, including Atmosphere, Weather and Climate, 9th edition (with R. J. Chorley, 2010), Mountain Weather and Climate, 3rd edition (Cambridge, 2008), Synoptic and Dynamic Climatology (with A. M. Carleton, 2011), The Arctic Climate System, 2nd edition (with M. C. Serreze, Cambridge, 2014), The Global Cryosphere: Past, Present and Future (with T. Y. Gan, Cambridge, 2011), and Essentials of the Earth's Climate System (with E. A. Hall-McKim, Cambridge, 2014).

Peter D. Blanken is a Professor and former Chair of the Department of Geography at the University of Colorado Boulder. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers, several book chapters, and is a co-author of Straits of Mackinac Weather (with Sandy Planisek, 2015). He has served on the editorial board of the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society for over a decade.

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