

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE SAN JUAN

FACULTAD DE CIENCIAS EXACTAS FISICAS Y NATURALES

GLOSSARY OF BIOLOGICAL TERMS

TOMO II

PARTE I

LICENCIATURA EN BIOLOGIA

INGLES NIVEL II y III

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INTRODUCCIÓN

El siguiente glosario es presentado como una herramienta de uso práctico que aumenta la eficiencia de aprendizaje y comprensión de textos científicos en inglés.

El contenido exhibe términos específicos relacionados con diferentes ámbitos de las ciencias biológicas que son de gran utilidad para la lectura de textos científicos con el fin de facilitar la comprensión y el aprendizaje de los tema tratados.

La construcción de este Glosario de términos específicos, es el resultado de un trabajo colaborativo cuyo objetivo es el desarrollo de las competencias atinentes a la Gestión de la Información, publicada en inglés y para la Construcción del Conocimiento.

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**A**

**abiotic stress-** estrés abiótico- (ecol.) Outside nonliving factors which can cause harmful effects to plants, such as soil conditions, drought, and extreme temperatures.

**adaptation-** adaptación- (bio.) The action and effect of adapting or adapt. It is the coping with the environmental conditions

**allele** –alelo -(gen.) It is one member of a pair or series of genes that occupy a specific position on a specific chromosome**.**

**amphibian-** anfibios- (zoo.)A class of [vertebrate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vertebrate) [animals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal) including animals such as [frogs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frog), [caecilians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caecilian), and salamanders.

**antelope** –antílope -(bio.) A term referring to many even-toed ungulate species found all over the world in places such as Africa, Asia, and North America. The term refers to a ‘miscellaneous’ group within the family encompassing the old-world species which are not cattle, sheep, buffalo, bison, or goats.

**autosome** – autosoma- (gen.) A [chromosome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromosome) that is not a [sex chromosome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex_chromosome); that is to say, there is an equal number of copies of the chromosome in males and females.

**B**

**beneficial mutation** - mutación benéfica- (gen.) A change of the DNA sequence within a gene or chromosome of an organism resulting in the creation of a new character or trait not found in the parental type.

**biogeography-** biogeografía- (bio.,geog.) The study of the distribution of species spatially and temporally. Biogeography aims at revealing where organisms live, at what abundance, and why they are (or are not) found in a certain geographical area.

**biological diversity-** diversidad biologica- (ecol.) The degree of variation of life forms within a given ecosystem, biome, or an entire planet. Biodiversity is a measure of the health of ecosystem. Greater biodiversity implies greater health. Biodiversity is in part a function of climate. In terrestrial habitats, the tropical regions are typically rich whereas polar regions support fewer species.

**biological evolution** - evolución biológica- (bio.) The change over time in one or more inherited traits found in populations of organisms. Inherited traits are particular distinguishing characteristics, including anatomical, biochemical or behavioral characteristics, that are passed on from one generation to the next.

**biological process** – proceso biológico- (bio.) A process of a living organism made up of any number of chemical reactions or other events that result in a transformation**.**

**biogeographic regions-** regiones biogeograficas- (bio.,ecol.,geog) An area of the Earth determined by distribution of flora and fauna.

**biomass**–biomasa- (ecol.) A [renewable energy source](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_energy_source), It is a [biological material](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biomaterial) from living, or recently living organisms, such as wood, waste, (hydrogen) gas, and alcohol fuels.

**biotic province-** provincia biótica- (bio.ecol.) A region inhabited by a characteristic set of taxa, bound by barriers that prevent the spread of the distinctive kinds of life to other regions and the immigration of foreign species.

**birth defect** - defecto de nacimiento -(med.) A physiological or structural abnormality that develops at or before birth which is present at the time of birth, especially as a result of faulty development, infection, heredity, or injury.

**C**

**chemical process** – proceso químico- (chem.) Any process determined by the atomic and molecular composition and structure of the substances involved

**chromosome** – cromosoma- (gen.) A threadlike linear strand of DNA and associated proteins in the nucleus of eukaryotic cells that carries the genes and functions in the transmission of hereditary information.

**chromosome abnormality** *-* anomalía cromosómica*- (gen.) An atypical number of*[*chromosomes*](http://www.answers.com/topic/chromosome#_blank)*or a structural abnormality in one or more chromosomes.*

**chaparral biome-** chaparral- (ecol.) Region characterized as being very hot and dry. As for the temperature, the winter is very mild and is usually about 10 °C. In the summer, it is so hot and dry at 40 °C that fires and droughts are very common.

Fortunately, the plants and animals are adapted to these conditions. Most of the plants have small, hard leaves which hold moisture. Some of these plants are poison oak, scrub oak, Yucca Wiple and other shrubs, trees and cacti.Biome found in some parts of most the continents –the west coast of the United States, the west coast of South America, the Cape Town area of South Africa, the western tip of Australia and the coastal areas of the Mediterranean.

**chromosome X** - cromosoma X- (gen.) The sex chromosome associated with female characteristics in mammals, occurring paired in the female and single in the male.

**chromosome Y** - cromosoma Y- (gen.) The sex chromosome associated with male characteristics in mammals, not occurring in females and occurring with one X-chromosome in the male sex-chromosome pair**.**

**clay** – arcilla- (geo.) A naturally occurring [aluminium silicate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aluminium_silicate) composed primarily of fine-grained [minerals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mineral).

**climax community** - comunidades en equilibrio- (ecol.) A biological [community](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_(ecology)) of [plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plants) and [animals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal) which, through the process of [ecological succession](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecological_succession) has reached a steady

**co-adaptations-** coadaptacion- (bio.) 1- A process related to genetic characteristics that have become established through mutually beneficial interactions between organisms in a community. 2- it is related to interaction among genes of different loci that result in an expression of these characteristics.

**coniferous forest-** bosque de coníferas- (ecol.) Vegetation composed primarily of cone-bearing, needle-leaved, or scale leaved evergreen trees, found in regions of the world that have long winters and moderate to high annual precipitation.

**D**

**desert** – desierto-(ecol) Arid regions of the Earth with water shortages or lack of rainfall, little or no vegetation and limited human occupation.

**diabetes** – diabetes- (med.) Severe chronic disease caused by insufficient production of insulin and resulting in abnormal metabolism of carbohydrates, fats, and proteins. The disease, which typically appears in childhood or adolescence, is characterized by increased sugar levels in the blood and urine, excessive thirst, frequent urination, acidosis, and wasting.

**dinosaurs** – dinosaurios- (bio.) Diverse group of animals that were the dominant terrestrial vertebrates for over 160 million years, from the late Triassic period (about 230 million years ago) until the end of the Cretaceous (about 65 million years ago).

**diploid cell**- célula diploide: (gen) A cell which contains two copies of each chromosome.

**dominance** – dominio- (gen.) 1) A specific relationship between the effects of different versions of a gene. 2) The condition or fact of being dominant.

**E**

**ecological niche**- nicho ecológico- (ecol.) The relational position of a species or population in its ecosystem. The ecological niche describes how an organism or population responds to the distribution of resources and competitors, and how it in turn alters those same factors.

**ecological succession** – sucesión ecológica- (ecol.) The development of vegetation in an area over time.

**ecosystem** – ecosistema- (ecol.) [biological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological) [environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_environment) consisting of all the [organisms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organisms) living in a particular area, as well as all the non-living, physical components of the environment with which the organisms interact, such as air, soil, water and sun light.

**environment** - medio ambiente- (ecol.) All living and non-living things that occur naturally on Earth.

**environmental risk**-riesgo medioambiental- (ecol.) The risk that a certain business venture or activity will cause destruction to the surrounding environmental.

**evolutionary adaptation-** adaptación evolutiva- (bio., hist., med.) 1- A continuous process of transformation of species through changes in successive generations. 2- The result of the competition among individuals of a particular species over many generations in reponse to an ever-chaning environmental, including other animals and plants.

**extinction** – extinción -(ecol.) The end of an organism or of a group of organisms (taxon), normally a species.

**F**

**families-**familia- (zoo.)1. A term applied to subcategories within orders. 2. Term applied to a group of similar things, such as languages, chromosomes, etc.

**fauna-** fauna**-**(zoo.) A term referring collectively to all animals in an area. The zoological counterpart of flora.

**fitness**- adaptabilidad- (ecol.) A measure of an individual's ability to survive and reproduce; the chance that an individual will leave more offspring in the next generation than other individuals. on a fingertip, especially such an impression made in ink and used as a means of identification.

**food chains** - cadena alimenticia -(ecol.) A [group](http://www.everythingbio.com/glos/definition.php?ID=1264) of [organism](http://www.everythingbio.com/glos/definition.php?ID=2006)s interrelated by the fact that each member of the [group](http://www.everythingbio.com/glos/definition.php?ID=1264) feeds upon on the one below it and is in turn eaten by the [organism](http://www.everythingbio.com/glos/definition.php?ID=2006) above it in the chain.

**fuel** – combustible- (ind.) Any material that stores [energy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Energy) that can later be extracted to perform [mechanical work](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mechanical_work) in a controlled manner.

G

**gene** – gen-(gen.) The hereditary unit consisting of a sequence of DNA that occupies a specific location on a chromosome and determines a particular characteristic in an organism. Genes undergo mutation when their DNA sequence changes.

**generate** –generar- (bio.) The act of producing offspring.

**genetic diversity** - diversidad genética- (gen.) The total number of [genetic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetics) characteristics in the genetic makeup of a species. It is distinguished from [genetic variability](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_variability), which describes the tendency of genetic characteristics to vary.

**genetic variation-** variación genética-(gen,ecol.) A measure of the genetic differences present within populations or species. For example, a population with many different alleles at a locus may be said to have a lot of genetic variation at that locus. Genetic variation is essential for natural selection to operate since natural selection can only increase or decrease frequency of alleles already present.

**genetic risk-** riesgo genético- (ecol) There are some detrimental changes in genetic characteristics not caused by external environmental changes. These changes could be caused by reduction of the genetic variation, genetic drift and mutation.

**geographic variability**- variabilidad geográfica- (zoo.,geo.,bot.) The distribution of plant and animal species on the surface of the Earth.

**germ cell** – célula germinal- (gen.) Any biological cell that gives rise to the gametes of an organism that reproduces sexually. In many animals, the germ cells originate near the gut of an embryo and migrate to the developing gonads.

**global extinction-** extinción global- (ecol.) This phenomenon refers to the process of a species becoming extinct everywhere.

**grasses** – pastos -(bot.) They are [monocotyledonous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monocotyledon), usually [herbaceous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbaceous_plant) [plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant) with narrow leaves growing from the base. They include the "true grasses", of the [*Poaceae*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poaceae)(or *Gramineae*) family, as well as the sedges ([*Cyperaceae*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyperaceae)) and the rushes ([*Juncaceae*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juncaceae)*).* The true grasses include [cereals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cereal), [bamboo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bamboo) and the grasses of [lawns](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawn) (turf) and [grassland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grassland)

**grazing-** pastoreo- (ecol) Type of feeding, in which a herbivore feeds on plants (such as grasses), and also on other multicellular autotrophs (such as algae). Grazing differs from true predation because the organism being eaten from is not generally killed.

**H**

**habitat disruption-** disrupción de hábitat- (ecol.)A disturbance of the physical environment in which a population lives.

**Haploid** – haploide -(gen.) Having the same number of sets of chromosomes as a germ cell or half as many as a somatic cell.

**hazardous substance** - sustancia peligrosa – (ind.) Solids, liquids, or gases that can harm people, other living organisms, property, or the environment.

**heredity** – herencia- (gen.) The genetic transmission of characteristics from parent to offspring.

**heterozygous** – heterocigotos- (gen.) Gene having two different alleles for a single trait.

**homozygous** – homocigotos -(gen.) Gene having identical alleles for a single trait.

**human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)**-virus de la inmunodeficiencia humana-(biol.)The retrovirus that attacks T-cells in the human immune system, destroying the body's defenses and allowing the development of AIDS.

**hybridization**-hibridación- (gen.)The hydrogen bonding of complementary DNA and/or RNA sequences to form a duplex molecule.

**I**

**infectious disease** - enfermedad infecciosa- (med.) 1) A clinically evident [illness](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illness) (i.e., characteristic [medical signs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medical_sign) and/or [symptoms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symptom) of [disease](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disease)) resulting from the [infection](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infection), presence and growth of [pathogenic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathogen) [biological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological) agents in an individual [host](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Host_(biology)) organism. 2) A clinical manifestation resulting from an infection caused via microorganism such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, and sometimes, protozoa, or prions.

**immune system-** sistema inmunológico- (biol.)One of the eleven major body organ systems in vertebrates; it defends the internal environment against invading microorganisms and viruses and provides defense against the growth of cancer cells.

**Immunoglobulin-** inmunoglobulina- (biol.)A protein produced by plasma cells and lymphocytes and characteristic of these types of cells. Immunoglobulins play an essential role in the body's immune system. They attach to foreign substances, such as bacteria, and assist in destroying them. Immunoglobulin is abbreviated Ig. The classes of immunoglobulins are termed immunoglobulin A (IgA), immunoglobulin G (IgG), immunoglobulin M (IgM), immunoglobulin D (IgD) and immunoglobulin E (IgE)..

**incomplete dominance-** dominio incompleto- (boil.) A type of inheritance in which the heterozygote has a phenotype intermediate to those of the homozygous parents.

**incomplete flower-** flores incompletas- (bot.) Condition in which one or more "typical" flower parts are absent. Example: grass flowers such as corn tassels which are male.

**J**

**jejunum-** yeyuno: (biol.)-The second portion of the small intestine.

**joining segment-**  fragmento de iniciación- (gen.) A small DNA segment that links genes to yield a functional gene encoding an immune globulin.

**jurassic period-** periodo jurasico- (geol.) Middle period of the Mesozoic Era, between 185-135 million years ago. Characterized by the (possible) origin of angiosperms and the continued split of the worldwide supercontinent of Pangaea.

**K**

**karyotype-** cariotipo- (gen.)The chromosomal characteristics of a cell; also, a representation of the chromosomes aligned in pairs.

**kingdoms-** reinos- (biol.)Five broad taxonomic categories into which organisms are grouped, based on common characteristics.

**Klinefelter syndrome-** sindrome deKlinefelter- (biol.) A genetically determined condition in which the individual has two X and one Y chromosome. Affected individuals are male and typically tall and infertile.

**Kreb's cycle-** ciclo de Kreb- (biol.) Biochemical cycle in cellular aerobic metabolism where acetyl CoA is combined with oxaloacetate to form citric acid; the resulting citric acid is converted into a number of other chemicals, eventually reforming oxaloacetate; NADH, some ATP, and FADH2 are produced and carbon dioxide is released.

**L**

**larva-** larva- (zoo.)  A stage in the development of many insects and other organisms including sea urchins and sponges. In sponges, sexual reproduction results in the production of motile ciliated larvae.

**life zone-** zonas de vida- (ecol.) A geographic region or area defined by its characteristic life forms. This means of describing areas with similar plant and animal communities. The change in these communities with an increase in latitude at a constant elevation is similar to the change seen with an increase in elevation at a constant latitude.

**local extinction-** extinción local- (ecol.) The process by which species disappear from a part of its range, but persists elsewhere.

**locus** – locus- (gen.)The specific location of a [gene](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gene) or [DNA sequence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DNA_sequence) on a [chromosome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromosome).

**M**

**marsupials-** marsupials- (zoo.) The group of mammals commonly thought of as pouched mammals (like the wallaby and kangaroo). They give birth to, but they do not have long gestation times like placental mammals. Instead, they give birth to very early and the young animal, essentially a helpless embryo, climbs from the mother's birth canal to the nipples. There it grabs on with its mouth and continues to develop, often for weeks or months depending on the species. The short gestation time is due to having a yolk-type placenta in the mother marsupial. Placental mammals nourish the developing embryo using the mother's blood supply, allowing longer gestation times.

Like other mammals, the marsupials are covered with hair. Mothers nurse their young — a young kangaroo may nurse even when it has grown almost to the mother's size.

The only naturally occurring marsupial in the United States is the opossum, *Didelphis marsupialis*. In the past, however, marsupials were quite common. During the [Mesozoic](http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/mesozoic/mesozoic.html) marsupials were very common in North America; more common, in fact, than placental mammals. They persisted here until the mid- to late-[Tertiary](http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/cenozoic/cenozoic.html).

**marshes** –pantano- (geo.) A type of wetland that is subject to frequent or continuous flood. Typically the water is shallow and features grasses, rushes, reeds, typhas, sedges, other herbaceous plants, and moss.

**meiosis** – meiosis -(bio.) A special type of cell division necessary for [sexual reproduction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sexual_reproduction)**.**

**mental impairment** - discapacidad mental - (med.) The condition in which reduced mental, emotional, and/or intellectual capacity renders individuals unable to function fully or normally in society.

**mineral resources** - fuentes minerals- (geo.) The classification of mineral deposits based on their geologic certainty and economic value. Mineral deposits can be classified as: 1) Mineral resources that are potentially valuable, and for which reasonable prospects exist for eventual economic extraction.2) Mineral reserves or Ore reserves that are valuable and legally and economically and technically feasible to extract

**mimicry**- mimetismo- (zoo) The resemblance of one organism to another or to an object in its surroundings for concealment and protection from predators.

**moisture**- humedad- (clim.) The water vapor content of the atmosphere, or the total substance (gaseous, liquid, and solid) present in a given volume of air.

**monotreme**- monetrema- (bio) A member of the monotremata, an order of primitive egg-laying mammal restricted to Australia and New Guinea and consisting of only the platypus and the echidna.

**mutation** – mutación- (gen.) A change of the DNA sequence within a gene or chromosome of an organism resulting in the creation of a new character or trait not found in the parental type.

**N**

**natural catastrophe-** catástrofe natural-(ecol.) The effects of a natural hazard (flood, tornado, hurricane, volcanic eruption, earthquake, or landslide). It leads to financial, environmental or human losses. The resulting loss depends on the vulnerability of the affected population to resist the hazard, also called their resilience. It is a sudden change in the environment not the result of human action.

**net primary productivity (NPP)-** producción primaria neta- (ecol. ) The [rate](http://www.biology-online.org/dictionary/Rate) at which an ecosystem accumulates energy or biomass, excluding the energy it uses for the [process](http://www.biology-online.org/dictionary/Process) of [respiration](http://www.biology-online.org/dictionary/Respiration).

**net secondary productivity (NSP)-** producción secundaria neta- (ecol.)  The rate at which the processes of consuming and decomposing biomass are carried out in a community.

**natural selection** - selección natural- (bio.) The process by which [biologic traits](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trait_(biology)) become more or less common in a [population](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population) due to consistent effects upon the survival or reproduction of their bearers. It is a key mechanism of [evolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evolution).

**nutricional disease** - enfermedad nutricional- (med.) Human diseases that are directly or indirectly caused by a lack of [essential nutrients](http://www.answers.com/topic/essential-nutrient#_blank) in the diet. Nutritional diseases are commonly associated with chronic [malnutrition](http://www.answers.com/topic/malnutrition#_blank).

**nutritional deficiency** - deficiencia nutricional- (med.) A lack of an adequate number of nutrients that the body needs**.**

**nutrient** - nutriente -(bio.) A [chemical](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical) that an [organism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organism) needs to live and grow or a substance used in an organism's metabolism which must be taken in from its environment.

**O**

**occipital lobe-** lóbulo occipital-(biol.)The lobe of the cerebral cortex located at the rear of the head; is responsible for receiving and processing visual information.

**oil** – petróleo- (geo.) A s[ubstance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical_substance) that is [liquid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liquid) at [ambient temperatures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Room_temperature) and is [hydrophobic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrophobic) but soluble in organic solvents. Oils have a high carbon and hydrogen content and are  [non-polar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nonpolar) substances.

**oils-** aceites- (biol.) Triglycerides that are liquid at room temperature.

**oncogenes-**oncogenes- (biol.)Genes that can activate cell division in cells that normally do not divide or do so only slowly. A gene that when over-expressed leads to cancer, but which normally functions in cell division.

**oocyte-**oocito- (zoo.) A cell that may undergo development into a female gamete.

**open community-** comunidad abierta- (ecol.)A community in which the populations have different density peaks and range boundaries and are distributed more or less randomly.

**organic pollutants** - contaminantes orgánicos- (ecol.). Organic compounds that are resistant to [environmental degradation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_degradation) through [chemical](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical_decomposition), [biological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodegradation), and [photolytic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photolysis) processes**.**

**organism** – organism- (bio.) Any living system (such as animal, plant, fungus, or micro-organism).

**P**

**permafrost-** permafrost- (eda.) The layer of soil or rock, at some depth beneath the surface, in which the temperature has been continuously below 0ºC for at least some years. It exists where summer heating fails to reach the base of the layer of frozen ground.

**perennial plants-** plantas perennes- (bot) The plant that lives more than two years. Unlike annuals and biennials, perennials bloom almost all for several years. They are usually divided into two types: herbaceous and woody.

**physiological adaptation-** adaptacion fisiológica- (bio.,gen.,med.)A metabolic or physiologic adjustment within the cell, or tissues, of an organism in response to an environmental stimulus resulting in the improved ability of that organism to cope with its changing environment.For example, the adaptation of horses' teeth to the grinding of grass, or their ability to run fast and escape predators. The camels produce concentrated urine compared to other mammals as it has to reduce the water loss, this is a kind of physiological adaptation as the kidney of camels are designed in a such a way that the wastage of water is minimum.

**placental mammals-** mamíferos placentarios- (bio.,ecol.) Animals nourished before birth in the mother’s uterus through a specialized embryonic organ attached to the uterus wall, the placenta.

**phenotype** - fenotipo - (gen.) Any observable characteristic or [trait](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trait_(biology)) of an [organism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organism): such as its [morphology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morphology_(biology)), [development](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Developmental_biology), biochemical or physiological properties, [behavior](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behavior), and products of behavior.

**photolytic process** – proceso fotolítico- (chem.) Any chemical decomposition induced by light or other radiant energy.

**polar ice cap** - casquete polar -(geo.) Either of the regions around the poles of the earth that are permanently covered with ice**.**

**populations** – poblaciones- (ecol.). All the organisms that belong to the same species and live in the same geographical area.

**population risk-** riesgo poblacional- (ecol**.**) The proportion of individuals in the general population who are affected with a particular disorder or who carry a certain gene. Often discussed in the genetic counseling process as a comparison to the patient’s personal risk given his internal or other external. There are random variations in population rates- in birth rates and death rates- can cause a species in low abundance to become extinct.

**precipitacion**- precipitación- (clim). The condensation process of [atmospheric](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atmosphere) [water vapor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_vapor) that falls under gravity. The main forms of precipitation include [drizzle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drizzle), [rain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rain), [sleet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sleet), [snow](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snow), [graupel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graupel) and [hail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hail). It occurs when a local portion of the atmosphere becomes saturated with water vapor and the water condenses. Two processes, possibly acting together, can lead to air becoming saturated: cooling the air or adding water vapor to the air.

**predator** – predador- (bio.) An organism that lives by preying on other organisms.

[**pre-natal development**](http://www.answers.com/topic/prenatal-development#_blank)– desarrollo prenatal- (bio.) The process in which a baby develops from a single cell after conception into an [embryo](http://www.answers.com/topic/embryo#_blank) and later a [fetus](http://www.answers.com/topic/fetus#_blank).

**prey** – presa- (bio.) An animal hunted or caught for food.

**Q**

**quantum models of speciation-**modelos cuánticos de especiación- (ecol)Models of evolution that hold that speciation sometimes occurs rapidly as well as over long periods, as the classical theory proposed.

**quaternary period-** período cuaternario- (geol.) The most recent geologic period of the Cenozoic Era, the Quaternary began 2 million years ago with the growth of northern hemisphere continental glaciers and the ice age.

**quaternary structure-** estructura cuaternaria-(biol.)A fourth structural level created by interactions with other proteins. Aspect of protein structure determined by the number and arrangement of polypeptides in a large protein such as hemoglobin.

**R**

**radially symmetrical-**simetría radial-(zoo.) Organisms with their body parts arranged around a central axis. Such animals tend to be circular or cylindrical in shape. rabbit – conejo- (bio.) Small mammals in the family *Leporidae* of the order *Lagomorpha*, found in several parts of the world.

**rat** - rata -(bio.) Various medium-sized, long-tailed rodents of the super family *Muroidea..*

**recessive-gene-** genrecesivo- (gen.) An allele of a gene that is expressed when the dominant allele is not present. An allele expressed only in homozygous form, when the dominant allele is absent.

**reptiles-** reptiles- (zoo.) A taxonomic class of vertebrates characterized by scales and amniotic eggs; the first truly terrestrial vertebrate group

**reproductive cell** – célula reproductive- (bio.) The haploid number of chromosomes, especially a mature sperm or egg capable of fusing with a gamete of the opposite sex to produce the fertilized egg

**S**

**salt** – sal- (chem.) A m[ineral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mineral) that is composed primarily of [sodium chloride](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sodium_chloride). It is essential for [animal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal) life in small quantities, but is harmful to animals and plants in excess.

**savanna-** sabana- (ecol.) A grassland ecosystem characterized by the trees being sufficiently small or widely spaced so that the canopy does not close. The open canopy allows sufficient light to reach the ground to support an unbroken herbaceous layer consisting primarily of C4 grasses. It is often believed that savannas feature widely spaced, scattered trees. However, in many savannas, tree densities are higher and trees are more regularly spaced than in forest, also characterized by seasonal water availability, with the majority of rainfall confined to one season, and are associated with several types of biomes.

**segregation of chromosome pairs** – separación de pares de cromosomas- (gen.) A step in cell reproduction or division, where chromosomes pair off with their similar homologous chromosome.

**sex chromosome** - cromosoma sexual- (gen.) A pair of chromosomes, usually designated X or Y, in the germ cells of most animals and some plants, that combine to determine the sex and sex-linked characteristics of an individual, with XX resulting in a female and XY in a male in mammals.

**sex determination** - determinación sexual -(gen.). They are the mechanisms which determine whether the bipotential embryo will develop as male or female in a species.

**sexual selection-** selección natural- (bio.) The evolutionary process in animals, which consists of the selection by females of males with certain characters –such as large antlers or bright plumage- results in the preservation of these characters in the species.

**species** – species- (bio.). One or more than one of the basic units of biological classification and a taxonomic rank. A species is often defined as a group of organisms capable of interbreeding and producing fertile offspring

**sperm** – esperma, semen, sinuente- (gen.) A male gamete or reproductive cell; a spermatozoon.

**T**

**temperature**- temperature- (clim.) A [physical property](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Physical_property) of matter that quantitatively expresses the common notions of [hot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heat) and [cold](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold). Objects of low temperature are cold, while various degrees of higher temperatures are referred to as warm or hot. [Heat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heat) spontaneously flows from bodies of a higher temperature to bodies of lower temperature, and no net heat will be exchanged between bodies of the same temperature. Such bodies are said to be in "[thermal equilibrium](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermal_equilibrium)".

The temperature of a substance varies with the microscopic speed of the fundamental particles that it contains, raised to the second power; that is, it is proportional to the mean kinetic energy of its particles. However, any increase in temperature upon receiving external kinetic energy as heat is also inversely proportional to heat capacity. Temperature can be thought of as the "concentration" of kinetic energy relative to its heat capacity. A higher heat capacity implies a higher [entropy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Entropy) in which to "spread out" the kinetic energy. A hot object must at least either have a smaller heat capacity or a larger kinetic energy than a cold object.

Quantitatively, temperature is measured with thermometers, which may be calibrated to a variety of temperature scales.

**tertiary structure-** estructura terciaria- (biol.)The folding of a protein's  secondary structure into a functional three-dimensional configuration. Shape assumed by protein due to interactions between amino acids far apart on the chain.

**trait** – rasgo- (gen.) 1) It is a distinguishing feature, as of a person's character. 2) A genetically determined characteristic or condition

**tropical rain forest-** bosque tropical de lluvia- (geo.)The tropical rain forest is a forest of tall trees in a region of year-round warmth. An average of 50 to 260 inches (125 to 660 cm.) of rain falls yearly.

Rain forests belong to the tropical wet climate group. The temperature in a rain forest rarely gets higher than 93 °F (34 °C) or drops below 68 °F (20 °C); average humidity is between 77 and 88%; rainfall is often more than 100 inches a year. There is usually a brief season of less rain. In monsoonal areas, there is a real dry season. Almost all rain forests are located near the equator.

**U**

**umbilical cord-** cordon umbilical- (biol.)The structure that connects the placenta and the embryo; contains the umbilical arteries and the umbilical vein.

**Unicellular-** unicellular-(biol.) Single-celled.Pertaining to an organism whose fuctions are all carried out within one cell. Examples of organisms thar are unicellular are microorgnisms such as bacteria and some algae such as diatoms.

**uninucleate-** uninucleado- (gen.)Term applied to cells having only a single nucleus.

**V**

**vaccine-**vacuna- (biol.) A preparation containing dead or weakened pathogens that when injected into the body elicit an immune response.

**vacuoles-** vacuolas- (biol.)  Membrane-bound þuid-Þlled spaces in plant and animal cells that remove waste products and store ingested food.

**vascular cambium-** cambium vascula- (bot.)A layer of lateral meristematic tissue between the xylem and phloem in the stems of woody plants. Lateral meristem tissue in plants that produces secondary growth.

**W**

**water power** - energía hidráulica- (ind.). Po[wer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power_(physics)) that is derived from the [force](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Force) or [energy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Energy) of moving water, which may be harnessed for useful purposes.

**white blood cell-** globulos blancos- (biol.) Component of the blood that functions in the immune system. Also known as a leukocyte.

**wood**- madera- (bot.) The inner layer of the stems of woody plants; composed of xylem.

**woody plant-** plantas leñosas- (bot) Any vascular plant perennial with a stem abovethe soil surface and covered with a thick layer of bark.

**X**

**xerophytic plants –** plantas xerófitas- (bot.) Plants that are adapted to drought and water shortages are called xerophytes. All these plants have different characteristics that confer tolerance to water shortage.

**xerophytic leaves-** niveles xérofitos- (bot.)The leaves of plants that grow under arid conditions with low levels of soil and water. Usually characterized by water-conserving features such as thick cuticle and sunken stomatal pits.

**X linked** - ligado al cromosoma X- (gen.) A gene related to, or characterized by genes situated on the X-chromosome.

**xylem-** xilema- (bot.)Tissue in the vascular system of plants that moves water and dissolved nutrients from the roots to the leaves; composed of various cell types including tracheids and vessel elements. Plant tissue type that conducts water and nutrients from the roots to the leaves.

**Y**

**Y chromosome -** cromosoma Y -(gen.) One of the two [sex-determining](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex-determination_system) [chromosomes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromosome) in most [mammals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal), including [humans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human).

**yeast-** levadura- (biol.)A unicellular fungus that lives in liquid or moist habitats, primarily reproducing asexually by simple cell division or by budding of a parent cell.

**yolk-** yema de huevo- (biol.)The stored food in egg cells that nourishes the embryo.

**yolk sac-** saco vitelino- (biol.)One of four extra-embryonic membranes that supports embryonic development; the first site of blood cells and circulatory system function.

**Z**

**zone of physiological stress-** zona de estrés fisiológico- (ecol.)The area in a population's geographic range where members of population are rare due to physical and biological limiting factors.

**zygomycetes-** zigomicetes- (biol.)One of the division of the fungi, characterized by the production of zygospores; includes the bread molds.

**Zygospore-** zigospora- (biol.)A structure that forms from the diploid zygote created by the fusion of haploid hyphae of different mating types. After a period of dormancy, the zygospore forms sporangia, where meiosis occurs and spores form.

**zygote-** cigota- (biol.)A fertilized egg. A diploid cell resulting from fertilization of an egg by a sperm cell.

GLOSSARY OF BIOLOGICAL TERMS

TOMO II

PARTE II

LICENCIATURA EN BIOLOGIA

Profesora: Aguado, Laura

Asignatura: Ingles Nivel III, Modalidad Seminario

CICLO LECTIVO 2011

INTRODUCCIÓN

Este diccionario temático pone a disposición de los interesados los términos técnicos de diferentes áreas pertenecientes a las ciencias biológicas como son la genética, el cambio climático, la dendrocronología, la ley de bosques, el uso de los recursos naturales y la percepción.

Los términos técnicos han sido extraídos de diferentes artículos científicos, específicos de cada tema.

Es nuestro deseo que les sirva de gran ayuda a las personas que investigan acerca de estos temas. Nuestra intención es que puedan aclarar el significado de los diferentes términos técnicos, con el fin de hacer un correcto uso del lenguaje científico específico dentro de cada rama de las ciencias biológicas aquí tratadas.

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GLOSSARY

“Forests´ Law”

TOMO II

PARTE II

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2011

**A**

**agribusiness** – agronegocios (econ.) Generic term for the various businesses volved in [food](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food) production, including [farming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Farming) and [contract farming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contract_farming), seed supply, [agrichemicals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agrichemical), [farm machinery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agricultural_machinery), [wholesale](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wholesale) and distribution, [processing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Processed_food), [marketing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marketing), and [retail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retail) sales.

**B**

**boundary** – límite (geo.)A subset *S* of a [topological space](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Topological_space) *X* is the set of points which can be approached both from *S* and from the outside of *S*.

**C**

**Chaco** – Chaco (geog.) A sparsely populated, hot and semiarid [lowland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lowland) region of the [Río de la Plata](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) basin, divided among eastern [Bolivia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia), [Paraguay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay), northern [Argentina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina) and a portion of the [Brazilian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil) states of [Mato Grosso](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mato_Grosso) and [Mato Grosso do Sul](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mato_Grosso_do_Sul), where it is connected with the [Pantanal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pantanal) region. This land is sometimes called the Chaco Plain.

**D**

**deforestation** – deforestación (bot.)The removal of a forest or stand of trees where the land is thereafter converted to a nonforest use. Examples of deforestation include conversion of forestland to farms, ranches, or urban use.

**dry forest** – bosque seco (bot.) This type of forest typically experiences an annual hard dry season. The average rainfall is sufficient enough to promote growth of trees, but these tree and plant species must be able to withstand periods of low precipitation and moisture.

**E**

**Extensive grazing** – pastoreo extensivo (bio.) A system of grazing management based on a low carrying capacity on unimproved native pasture without irrigation and usually in area of medium to low rainfall.

**F**

**forest economy** – economía forestal (econ.)Economics is the study of how best to allocate scarce resources in order to derive the highest mix of benefits for the investor. Economy forest explore which economic variables are most important to us in the forest industry, and how to understand changes in these variables.

**forest policy –** policía forestal (soc.)Global forest policy has been developed in a variety of flora. The following introduction reviews the deliberations on forests and outcomes from discussions at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF), the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests ([**IFF**](http://www.iisd.ca/process/forest_desertification_land-forestintro.htm#iff)), the United Nations Forum on Forests ([**UNFF**](http://www.iisd.ca/process/forest_desertification_land-forestintro.htm#unff)), the Committee on Forestry ([**COFO**](http://www.iisd.ca/process/forest_desertification_land-forestintro.htm#cofo)) of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Tropical Timber Organization ([**ITTO**](http://www.iisd.ca/process/forest_desertification_land-forestintro.htm#itto)).

**forest structure** – estructura del bosque (eco.)Yet despite the variability of our planet's forests, there are some basic structural characteristics that many forests share—characteristics that can help us to better understand both forests and the animals and wildlife that inhabit them. Mature forests often have several distinct vertical layers. These include: forest floor, herb layer, shrub layer, understory, canopy and emergents.

**G**

**Growth** – crecimiento (bio.) An increase in some quantity over time. Development from a lower or simpler to a higher or more complex form; evolution.

**H**

**habitat fragmentation** – fragmentación del hábitat (eco.)The emergence of discontinuities (fragmentation) in an organism's preferred environment ([habitat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Habitat_(ecology))), causing [population fragmentation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population_fragmentation). Habitat fragmentation can be caused by [geological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geological) processes that slowly alter the layout of the physical environment (suspected of being [one of the major causes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allopatric_speciation) of [speciation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speciation)), or by human activity such as land conversion, which can alter the environment much faster and causes [extinctions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extinction) of many species.

**I**

**isolated** **place**– lugar aislado (eco.) A place aparted; detached or separated so as to be alone.

**J**

**Journal of ecology** – revista de ecología (eco.) Publishes important and broad-reaching papers on all aspects of plant-related ecology, covering: terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, studies of plant communities, populations or individuals and interactions between plants and their environment or plants and other organisms.

**L**

**landscape structure** – estructura del paisaje (eco.)The above definition poses the question, "what is the landscape structure or pattern?" "Structure" and "pattern" imply spatial heterogeneity. Spatial heterogeneity has two components: the amounts of different possible entities (e.g., different habitat types), and their spatial arrangements. In landscape ecology these have been labeled landscape "composition" and "configuration" respectively. The amount of forest or wetland, the length of forest edge, or the density or roads are aspects of landscape composition. The juxtaposition of different landscape elements and measures of habitat fragmentation per se (independent of habitat amount) are aspects of landscape configuration.

**M**

**mathematical model** – modelo matemático (mat.) A description of a [system](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/System) using [mathematical](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematics) concepts and language. The process of developing a mathematical model is termed mathematical modeling.

**N**

**natural resources** – recursos naturals (eco.) Occur naturally within [environments](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_environment) that exist relatively undisturbed by mankind, in a [natural](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nature) form. A natural [resource](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource) is often characterized by amounts of biodiversity

and [geodiversity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geodiversity) existent in various [ecosystems](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecosystems).

**O**

**old-growth forest** – bosque maduro (bot.) A forest that has attained great age (and associated structural features), and thereby exhibits unique [ecological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecological) features. An old growth forest has also usually reached a climax community.

**P**

**plantation** – plantación (agro.) A long artificially established forest, or [estate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Estate_(land)), where [crops](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crops) are grown for sale, often in distant [markets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Market) rather than for local on-site [consumption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consumption_(economics)). The term *plantation* is informal and not precisely defined.

**Q**

**Quebracho** – quebracho (bot.)A common name in [Spanish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language) to describe very hard wood tree species. The [etymology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Etymology) of the name derived from *quiebrahacha*, or *quebrar hacha*, meaning "[axe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Axe)-breaker".

**R**

**resource** – recurso (eco.) A supply from which benefit is produced. Typically resources are materials or other assets that are transformed to produce benefit and in the process may be consumed or made unavailable. From a human perspective a [natural resource](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_resource) is anything obtained from the [environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_environment) to satisfy human needs and wants. From a broader biological or ecological perspective a resource satisfies the needs of a living organism (see [biological resource](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource_(biology))).

**S**

**sawmills** – aserradero (ind.)A place where [logs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logging) are cut into [boards](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lumber).

**shelterwood system** – sistema de cortas (bot.)A [silvicultural system](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silviculture) in which [trees](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tree) are [removed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logging) in a series of cuts designed to achieve a new even-aged stand under the shelter of remaining trees. It is similar to [selective](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selection_cutting) and [seed tree cutting](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silviculture#Common_methods) in that the ground is never left completely bare. Compared to clearcutting, shelterwood systems cause less damage to the place ecologically and aesthetically.

**skidder** – tractor de arrastre (mec.)Any type of heavy vehicle used in a [logging](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logging) operation for pulling [trees](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timber) out of a forest in a process called "skidding", in which the logs are transported from the cutting site to a landing.

**soybean** – soja (bot.) A species of [legume](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legume) native to [East Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Asia), widely grown for its edible [bean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bean) which has numerous uses. The plant is classed as an oilseed by the [Food and Agricultural Organization](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_and_Agricultural_Organization) (FAO).

**subsidy** – subsidio (econ.)A subvention, is an assistance paid to a business or economic sector. Most subsidies are made by the government to producers or distributors in an [industry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industry) to prevent the decline of that industry (e.g., as a result of continuous unprofitable operations) or an increase in the prices of its products or simply to encourage it to hire more [labor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wage_labour) (as in the case of a [wage](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wage) subsidy).

**T**

**transgenic plants** – planta transgénica (gen.)Progress is being made on several fronts to introduce new traits into plants using [recombinant DNA](http://users.rcn.com/jkimball.ma.ultranet/BiologyPages/R/RecombinantDNA.html) technology.The genetic manipulation of plants has been going on since the dawn of agriculture, but until recently this has required the slow and tedious process of cross-breeding varieties. Genetic engineering promises to speed the process and broaden the scope of what can be done.

**V**

**Virgin forest** – bosque virgin (eco.) Forest or woodland having a mature or overly mature ecosystem more or less uninfluenced by human activity.

**W**

**wood** – madera (ind.) A hard, fibrous tissue found in many trees. It has been used for hundreds of thousands of years for both [fuel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fuel) and as a construction material. It is an organic material, a natural composite of [cellulose](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cellulose) fibers (which are strong in tension) embedded in a matrix of ligning which resists compression.

**X**

**Xeric** – xérico (bot.)All the plants and plant associations adapted to life in a dry environment.

**Y**

# Yungas – Yungas (geog.) Region of lowland valleys in the eastern piedmont of the Andes Mts., 5,000-8,000 ft (1,524-2,438 m) high,extending from the Peru-Bolivia border SE into central Bolivia. They receive excessive rainfall and are warm and humid. Although isolated and very difficult of access, the yungas assumed economic importance in the early 20th cent. as a major source of rubber and quinine. Coca, sugarcane, and coffee are grown there. With improved communications the region's economy has grown, especially in the more accessible valleys close to La Paz, Bolivia, which have been developed as resorts.

**Z**

**Zygophyllaceae** – Zigophyllaceae (bot.)Small trees, shrubs, and herbs of warm arid and saline regions; often resinous; some poisonous: genera Zygophyllum, Tribulus, Guaiacum, Larrea.

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GLOSSARY

“Dendrocronology”

TOMO II

PARTE II

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2011

**A**

**Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation**- **A.M.O-** Oscilación Multidecadal del Atlántico (clim.) A [mode of variability](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mode_of_variability) occurring in the [North Atlantic Ocean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Atlantic_Ocean) and which has its principal expression in the [sea surface temperature](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_surface_temperature) (SST) field. While there is some support for this mode in models and in historical observations, controversy exists with regard to its amplitude, and in particular, the attribution of [sea surface temperature](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_surface_temperature) change to natural or anthropogenic causes, especially in tropical Atlantic areas important for hurricane development.

**B**

**balsam poplar** – álamo balsámico (bot.)A tree species in the [balsam poplar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balsam_poplar) species group in the poplar genus, [*Populus*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Populus)*.* The genus name *Populus* is from the Latin for [poplar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poplar), and the specific epithet *balsamifera* from Latin for "balsam-bearing".

**C**

**coniferous** – coníferas (bot.) The conifers, division Pinophyta, also known as division Coniferophyta or Coniferae, are one of 13 or 14 division level taxa within the[Kingdom Plantae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant). Pinophytes are [gymnosperms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gymnosperms). They are [cone-bearing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conifer_cone) seed [plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant) with [vascular](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vascular_plant) tissue; all extant conifers are [woody plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woody_plant), the great majority being [trees](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tree) with just a few being [shrubs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrub).

**D**

**demographic-** demografía (eco.) The most recent statistical characteristics of a population.

**dendrochronology**- Dendrocronología (bot.) The scientific method of dating based on the analysis of patterns of tree-rings. Can date the time at which tree rings were formed, in many types of wood, to the exact calendar year.

**E**

**ecotone** – ecotono (eco.)A transition area between two biomes but different [patches of the landscape](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landscape_ecology#Patch_and_mosaic), such as forest and grassland.

**F**

**floodplain**- llanura de inundación ( eco.)  A flat or nearly flat land adjacent a [stream](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stream) or [river](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River) that stretches from the banks of its channel to the base of the enclosing valley walls and experiences [flooding](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flood) during periods of high discharge.

**G**

**global climate** – clima global (clim.)Encompasses the statistics of temperature, [humidity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humidity), [atmospheric pressure](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atmospheric_pressure), [wind](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wind), [rainfall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainfall), atmospheric particle count and other [meteorological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meteorology) elemental measurements in a given region over long periods. Climate can be contrasted to [weather](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weather), which is the present condition of these elements and their variations over shorter periods.

**H**

**humid continental climate** – clima continental húmedo (clim.)  A climatic region typified by large seasonal temperature differences, with warm to hot (and often humid) summers and cold (sometimes severely cold) winters.

**I**

**ice core** – núcleo de hielo (clim.) A [core sample](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Core_sample) that is typically removed from an [ice sheet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ice_sheet), most commonly from the polar ice caps of Antarctica, Greenland or from high mountain [glaciers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glacier) elsewhere. As the [ice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ice) forms from the incremental build up of annual layers of [snow](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snow), lower layers are older than upper, and an ice core contains ice formed over a range of years.

**K**

**key deer-**  ciervo clave (zoo.) *Odocoileus virginianus clavium* is an [endangered](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endangered_species) [deer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deer) that lives only in the [Florida Keys](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florida_Keys). It is a subspecies of the [White-tailed deer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White-tailed_deer) (*O. virginianus*).

**L**

**laterwood-** madera tardia (bot.) In ring-porous woods of good growth it is usually the latewood in which the thick-walled, strength-giving fibers are most abundant.

**M**

**mountain range – sierra (geo.)** A single, large mass consisting of a succession of [mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain) or narrowly spaced mountain ridges, with or without peaks, closely related in position, direction, formation, and age; a component part of a mountain system or of a mountain chain.

**N**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NOAA** – Nacional Atmosférica y Oceánica (clim.)A scientific agency within the [United States Department of Commerce](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Department_of_Commerce) focused on the conditions of the [oceans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceans) and the [atmosphere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth%27s_atmosphere). NOAA warns of dangerous [weather](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weather), charts seas and skies, guides the use and protection of ocean and coastal resources, and conducts research to improve understanding and stewardship of the [environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environment_(biophysical)).

**O**

**organic matter** – materia organica (eco.) A [matter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matter) that has come from a once-living [organism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organism); it is capable of decay or the product of decay; or is composed of [organic compounds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organic_compound). The definition of organic matter varies upon the subject for which it is being used.

**P**

**permafrost**- permafrost (edafo.) Soil at or below the freezing point of water (0 °C or 32 °F) for two or more years. Ice is not always present, as may be in the case of nonporous bedrock, but it frequently occurs and it may be in amounts exceeding the potential hydraulic saturation of the ground material. Most permafrost is located in high latitudes (i.e. land close to the North and South poles), but alpine permafrost may exist at high altitudes in much lower latitudes. Permafrost accounts for 0.022% of total water and exists in 24% of exposed land in the Northern Hemisphere.

**R**

**Rhododendron** – Rhododendron (bot.) A [genus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genus) of over 1 000 [species](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Species) of woody plants in the [heath family](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ericaceae), most with showy flowers. It includes the plants known to gardeners as [azaleas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azalea).

**S**

**second-growth-** crecimiento secundario ( bot.) Wide-ringed wood is often called "second-growth", because the growth of the young timber in open stands after the old trees have been removed is more rapid than in trees in a closed forest, and in the manufacture of articles where strength is an important consideration such "second-growth" hardwood material is preferred.

**slash pine –** pino barra( bot.)A [pine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pine) native to the [southeastern United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeastern_United_States), from southern [South Carolina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Carolina) west to southeastern [Louisiana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisiana), and south to the [Florida](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florida) [Keys](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florida_Keys).

**slopes**- pendiente (geo.) refers to the amount of inclination of that surface to the horizontal. It is a special case of the gradient in calculus where zero indicates gravitational level.

**T**

**tree-ring chronology-** cronología de los anillos de los árboles (bot.) the scientific method of dating based on the analysis of patterns of tree-rings.

**V**

**vessel element** – elemento del vaso (bot.) A one of the cell types found in [xylem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xylem), the water conducting tissue of plants. Vessel elements are typically found in the [angiosperms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angiosperm) but absent from most [gymnosperms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gymnosperm) such as the [conifers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conifers).

**W**

**wildfire-**incendios forestales (bot.) Any uncontrolled [fire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire) in combustible vegetation that occurs in the countryside or a [wilderness](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilderness) area.

**X**

**Xylem** – xilema (bot.) A one of the two types of transport tissue in [vascular plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vascular_plant) ([phloem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phloem) is the other). The word *xylem* is derived from the [Classical Greek](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classical_Greek) word ξυλον (*xylon*), meaning "wood"; the best-known xylem tissue is [wood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wood), though it is found throughout the plant. Its basic function is to transport water, but it also transports some [nutrients](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant_nutrition) through the plant.

**Y**

**Yellow Cedar – cedro amarillo (bot.)** Yellow cedars have ever-green; small, dull bluish-green and up to 3mm long leaves. Twigs are very flexible, slightly flattened and green to reddish-brown along stem. Seed cones are berry-like and soft. Barks are thin, scaly grayish-brown when young, separating into narrow intersecting ridges as matured. Yellow cedars are medium-sized tree which grow up to 25 m high and 90 cm in diameter. Trunks are tapered associated with broadly buttressed and fluted base. Roots are shall to deep. Their distribution is along west coastal British Columbia.

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE SAN JUAN

FACULTAD DE CIENCIAS EXÁCTAS, FÍSICAS Y NATURALES

GLOSSARY

“The use of Natural Resources”

TOMO II

PARTE II

Alumna: Solari Marcia

2011

**A**

**analogy -** analogia (biol). Any trait or organ that appears similar in two unrelated organisms. The cladistic term for the same phenomenon is homoplasy.

**B**

**biodiversity** – biodivesidad (ecol) The degree of variation of life forms within a given ecosystem, biome, or an entire planet.

**C**

**competition** – competencia (ecol) Any contest between individuals, groups, animals, etc. for territory, a niche, or a location of resources. It arises whenever two or more parties strive for a goal which cannot be shared. Competition occurs naturally between living organisms which co-exist in the same environment.

**D**

# desert – desierto (geog). A landscape or region that receives an extremely low amount of precipitation, less than enough to support growth of most plants. Deserts can also be described as areas where more water is lost by evapotranspiration than falls as precipitation.

# E

**ethnopharmacology** – etnofarmacología (bot) It is the scientific study of ethnic groups and their use of drugs. It is distinctly linked to plant use, botany, as this is the main delivery of pharmaceuticals.

**ethnobotany –** etnobotánica (bot) The scientific study of the relationships that exist between people and plants. This includes use for food, clothing, currency, ritual, medicine, dye, construction, cosmetics and more.

**endemism –** endemismo (ecol) The ecological state of being unique to a defined geographic location, such as an island, nation or other defined zone, or habitat type; organisms that are indigenous.

# evapotranspiration - evapotranspiration(bot) The sum of evaporation and plant transpiration from the Earth's land surface to atmosphere. Evaporation accounts for the movement of water to the air from sources such as the soil, canopy interception, and water bodies.

# F

# flower – flor (bot) The [reproductive](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reproduction) structure found in [flowering plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flowering_plant) (plants of the division [Magnoliophyta](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magnoliophyta), also called angiosperms). The biological function of a flower is to effect reproduction, usually by providing a mechanism for the union of sperm with eggs. Flowers may facilitate outcrossing (fusion of sperm and eggs from different individuals in a population) or allow selfing (fusion of sperm and egg from the same flower).

# G

**gender –** género (biol) A range of characteristics used to distinguish between males and females, particularly in the cases of men and women and the masculine and feminine attributes assigned to them. Depending on the context, the discriminating characteristics vary from sex to social role to gender identity.

**H**

**habitat** – habitat (ecol) An ecological or environmental area that is inhabited by a particular species of animal, plant or other type of organism. It is the natural environment in which an organism lives, or the physical environment that surrounds (influences and is utilized by) a species population.

**I**

**inflorescence –** inflorecencia (bot) The collective cluster of flowers. Some inflorescences are composed of many small flowers arranged in a formation that resembles a single flower.

**J**

**Jasmine** – jazmín (bot) It is a genus of shrubs and vines in the olive family (*Oleaceae*). The jasmines are deciduous (falling in autumn) or evergreen (green all year round) erect, spreading, or climbing shrubs and vines. Their leaves are borne opposite or alternate. They can be simple, trifoliate, or pinnate. They are white or yellow in color, though in rare instances they can be slightly reddish. The flowers are borne in cymose clusters with a minimum of three flowers, though they can also be solitary on ends of branchlets. Each flower has about four to nine petals, two locules, and one to four ovules.

**K**

**kangaroo**-canguro (zool) A [marsupial](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marsupial) from the family Macropodidae, meaning 'large foot'. In common use the term is used to describe the largest [species](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Species) from this family, especially those of the genus [*Macropus*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macropus), [Red Kangaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_Kangaroo), [Antilopine Kangaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antilopine_Kangaroo), [Eastern Grey Kangaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Grey_Kangaroo) and [Western Grey Kangaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Grey_Kangaroo). Kangaroos are endemic to the country of Australia.

**L**

**lake** – lago (geol) is a body of relatively still fresh or salt [water](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water) of considerable size, localized in a [basin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Depression_(geology)), that is surrounded by land. Lakes are inland and not part of the [ocean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Ocean) and therefore are distinct from [lagoons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagoon), and are larger and deeper than [ponds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pond).

**M**

**mule**- mula (zool)The offspring of a male [donkey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donkey) and a [female horse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mare). Horses and donkeys are different species, with different numbers of [chromosomes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chromosome). Of the two [first hybrids](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/F1_hybrid) between these two species, a mule is easier to obtain than a [hinny](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinny) (the offspring of a male horse and a female donkey). All male mules and most female mules are [infertile](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infertility).

**N**

**niche –** nicho (ecol) A specialized area in which evolution optimizes certain species for. Some examples of niche are predator, grazer, hunter-gatherer, scavenger, and parasite.

**O**

# Oasis – oasis (geog) An isolated area of vegetation in a desert, typically surrounding a spring or similar water source. Oases also provide habitat for animals and even humans if the area is big enough.

# P

# phreatophytic ecosystems – ecosistemas freatroficos (ecol) A deep-rooted plant that obtains a significant portion of the water that it needs from the phreatic zone (zone of saturation) or the capillary fringe above the phreatic zone.

# Q

# quail – codorniz (zool)  A collective name for several [genera](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genera) of mid-sized [birds](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bird) generally considered in the order [Galliformes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galliformes). [Old World quail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_World_quail) are found in the family [Phasianidae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phasianidae), while [New World quail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_World_quail) are found in the family [Odontophoridae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Odontophoridae). The [buttonquail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buttonquail) are not quail at all, are named more for their appearance superficially resembling quail, and are members of the *Turnicidae* family, more closely related to the [Charadriiformes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charadriiformes).

# R

# riparian ecosystems – ecosistemas riparianos (ecol) The interface between land and a river or stream. Riparian is also the proper nomenclature for one of the fifteen terrestrial biomes of the earth.

**S**

**stress** – estrés (ecol) A term first used in the biological context in the 1930s, which has in more recent decades become commonly used in popular parlance. It refers to the consequence of the failure of an organism — human or other animal — to respond adequately to mental, emotional, or physical demands, whether actual or imagined.

**T**

**trypanosoma cruzi –** tripanozoma cruzy (zool) A species of [parasitic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parasite) [euglenoid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euglenoid) [trypanosomes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trypanosoma). This species causes the [trypanosomiasis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trypanosomiasis) diseases in humans and animals in America. Transmission occurs when the [reduviid bug](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reduviidae) deposits feces on the skin surface and subsequently bites; the human host then scratches the bite area, which facilitates penetration of the infected feces.

**U**

**undergrowth** – maleza (bot) The vegetation in a forest, which can obstruct passage through the forest. Undergrowth can also refer all vegetation in a forest, which isn't in the canopy.

**V**

**vernalization -** vernalización (bot)The acquisition of a [plant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plant)'s ability to [flower](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flower) or [germinate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germination) in the spring by exposure to the prolonged cold of winter.

**W**

**wealth** – riqueza (ecol) The abundance of valuable resources or material possessions. An individual, community, region or country that possesses an abundance of such possessions or resources is known as wealthy.

**X**

**xylem** – xilema (bot)One of the two types of transport tissue in[vascular plants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vascular_plant). The most distinctive xylem [cells](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cell_(biology)) are the long tracheary elements that transport water.

**Y**

**yucca** – yucca (bot) A genus of perennial shrubs and trees in the family Asparagaceae, subfamily Agavoideae. Its 40-50 species are notable for their rosettes of evergreen, tough, sword-shaped leaves and large terminal panicles of white or whitish flowers. They are native to the hot and dry (arid) parts of North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

**Z**

**zoology –** zoología (zool) The branch of [biology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biology) that relates to the animal kingdom, including the structure, embryology, [evolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evolution), [classification](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological_classification), [habits](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethology), and distribution of all [animals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal), both living and [extinct](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extinction).

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GLOSSARY

“Climate Change”

TOMO II

PARTE II

Alumna: Villafañe Andrea

2011

**A**

**atmosphere**- atmósfera (clim.) A layer of [gases](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gas) that may surround a material body of sufficient [mass](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass), and that is held in place by the [gravity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gravity) of the body. An atmosphere may be retained for a longer duration, if the gravity is high and the atmosphere's temperature is low. Some [planets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planet) consist mainly of various gases, but only their outer layer is their atmosphere.

**B**

**black carbon**-carbon negro (chem.)  A black finely divided form of amorphous carbon produced by incomplete combustion of natural gas or petroleum. A black colloidal substance consisting wholly or principally of amorphous carbon and used to make pigments and ink.

**C**

**complex dynamics**- dinámica compleja (clim.) The study of defined by [iteration](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iterated_function) of functions on [complex number](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Complex_number) spaces. Complex analytic dynamics is the study of the dynamics of specifically [analytic functions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analytic_function).

**E**

**ecosystem**- ecosistéma (eco.) A [biological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological) [environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_environment) consisting of all the [organisms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organisms) living in a particular area, as well as all the nonliving (abiotic), physical components of the environment with which the organisms interact, such as air, soil, water and sunlight.

**F**

**flood**- inundación (clim.) An overflow of an expanse of water that submerges land.

**fossiel fuel**- combustible fósiles (geo.) The [fuels](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fuel) formed by natural processes such as [anaerobic decomposition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anaerobic_decomposition) of buried dead [organisms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organism). This process takes millons of yeats, and sometimes exceeds 650 million years. The fossil fuels, which contain high percentages of [carbon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon), include [coal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal), [petroleum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroleum), and [natural gas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_gas). Fossil fuels range from [volatile materials](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volatility_(chemistry)) with low [carbon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon): [hydrogen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrogen) ratios like [methane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Methane), to liquid [petroleum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroleum) to nonvolatile materials composed of almost pure carbon, like [anthracite](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthracite) [coal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal). Methane can be found in hydrocarbon fields, alone, associated with oil, or in the form of [methane clath rates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Methane_clathrates). It is generally accepted that they formed from the [fossilized remains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fossil) of dead plants  by exposure to heat and pressure in the Earth's crust over millions of years.

**G**

[**glacial earthquake**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glacial_earthquake) – terremoto glacial ( geol.) Large scale tremblors that occur in glaciated areas where the glacier moves faster than one kilometer per year.

[**global dimming**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_dimming) –oscurecimiento global (clim.) The observed decrease in surface insolation, that may have recently reversed.

**H**

[**holocene Climatic Optimum**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holocene_Climatic_Optimum) – holoceno climaticas optimas (clim) A warm period during roughly the interval 9,000 to 5,000 years.

**I**

**interaction**- interacciones (eco.) A kind of action that occurs as two or more objects have an effect upon one another. The idea of a two-way effect is essential in the concept of interaction, as opposed to a one-way [causal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Causality) effect.

**K**

[**keeling curve**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keeling_Curve) – curva Keeling (est.) A [graph](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chart) showing the variation in concentration of [atmospheric](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth%27s_atmosphere) [carbon dioxide](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_dioxide) since 1958.

**L**

[**little ice age**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Ice_Age) – pequeña edad de hielo (clim.) A period of cooling occurring after a warmer era known as the [Medieval climate optimum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medieval_climate_optimum).

**M**

[**meteorology**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meteorology) – meteorological (clim.) The interdisciplinary scientific study of the atmosphere that focuses on weather processes and forecasting.

**N**

**natural environment** - medio ambiente natural (eco.) It encompasses all [living](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Life) and non-living things occurring [naturally](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nature) on [Earth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth) or some region thereof. It is an environment that encompasses the interaction of all living species.

**niche** - nicho (eco.) A term describing the relational position of an organism's species.

**O**

**ozone layer** - capa de ozono (clim.) A layer in [Earth's atmosphere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth%27s_atmosphere) which contains relatively high concentrations of [ozone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ozone) (O3). This layer absorbs 97–99% of the [Sun](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun)'s high frequency [ultraviolet light](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ultraviolet_light), which is potentially damaging to the life forms on Earth. It is mainly located in the lower portion of the [stratosphere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stratosphere) from approximately 20 to 30 kilometres (12 to 19 mi) above Earth, though the thickness varies seasonally and geographically.

**P**

**phenology** –fenologia (gen.)   The study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events and how these are influenced by seasonal and interannual variations in climate.

**S**

[**solar variation**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_variation) – variación solar (eco.) Changes in the amount of radiant energy emitted by the Sun.

**T**

**trophic interactions** - interacciones troficas (eco.) Living organisms exist within webs of interactions with other living creatures, the most important of which involve eating or being eaten (trophic interactions). Complex interactions among several species are called food webs while simpler linear ones within a particular food web are called food chains.

**trophic level**- niveles tróficos (eco.) It explains that an [organism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organism) is the position it occupies in a [food chain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_chain).

**U**

[**urban heat island**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban_heat_island) – islas de calor urbano (clim.) A metropolitan area which is significantly warmer than its surroundings.

**W**

**weather** - tiempo (clim.) The state of the atmosphere at a given time and place, with respect to variables such as temperature, moisture, wind velocity, and barometric pressure.