

## Preface

A symposium on the terrestrial ecosystem in the Syowa Station area was held on 30 September and 1 October 1977, which was organized by the National Institute of Polar Research, Tokyo. It aimed to exchange scientific information obtained from the Syowa Station area and also to refer to current knowledge derived from laboratory works and from foreign investigations. Therefore, this proceedings comprises not only original papers but also a review paper.

The paper presentation and discussion were done in four sessions;

1. Taxonomy and ecology of microscopic algae,
2. Morphology and taxonomy of mosses and lichens,
3. Ecology of soil animals,
4. Ecology of Adélie penguin.

As an intensive research on the mosses and algae of the Syowa Station area had been performed since 1974 and remarkable progress was recognized, emphasis was laid on the sessions 1 and 2.

Necessity of comparative study at distant localities and desire for geographical extension of the research field were discussed based upon the data accumulated.

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