

Trophic levels in an ecosystem **Triple only**

What are trophic levels?

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What is trophic level 1?

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What are primary consumers?

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What are secondary and tertiary consumers?

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What is an apex predator?

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How do decomposers feed?

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What does a pyramid of biomass show?

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What percentage of incident light energy do producers transfer?

Producers: plants and algae, which make their own food.

Levels in a food chain, numbered from 1 (plants and algae) according to how far along the chain the organism is.

Secondary (level 3): carnivores that eat herbivores. Tertiary (level 4): carnivores that eat other carnivores.

Level 2: herbivores that eat plants or algae.

They secrete enzymes into the environment. Small soluble food molecules then diffuse into the microorganism.

A carnivore with no predators.

About 1%.

The relative amount of biomass in each level of a food chain, with trophic level 1 at the bottom.

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What percentage of biomass passes to the next trophic level?

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How is biomass lost between trophic levels?

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How do you calculate efficiency of biomass transfer?

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How does biomass loss affect the number of organisms?

Egested as faeces; lost as carbon dioxide and water in respiration; water and urea lost in urine.

Approximately 10%.

Less biomass is available at each higher level, so fewer organisms can be supported at each higher trophic level.

Biomass transferred to the next level divided by biomass at the previous level, multiplied by 100.