Some Biogeographers, Evolutionists and Ecologists: Chrono-Biographical Sketches

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Each name in the following list of naturalists is linked to a corresponding capsule "chrono-biographical" sketch of that individual prepared by the authors. Coverage extends from approximately 1950 backward in time as far as the eighteenth century; figures from all over the world are included (though there is admittedly a decided Anglo-American bias). The target subject here is biogeography, but this being a broad field there are many persons on the list who are better known as climatologists, zoologists, botanists, ecologists, oceanographers, paleontologists, etc. — in other words, who made their main reputations in cognate disciplines.

This service has been set up to support my two Early Classics in Biogeography, Distribution and Diversity Studies websites, and because of this no claims are made of having produced a list of all workers relevant to these studies (in fact, the most famous figures, such as Louis Agassiz, Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin, although listed below, are not covered here inasmuch as satisfactory biographical information on them is easy to find elsewhere on the Web). Note in this context that only those persons who produced works appearing in the "Early Classics...To 1950" list were considered for inclusion below, and therefore that many notable figures whose reputations largely postdate 1950 are not treated. This was simply a concession made to the limited time available to do the work.

My thanks to Western Kentucky University for providing funding that significantly contributed to the completion of this service. Also to David Hall, who collected some additional data for me in 2006. — C. H. S.

**Alphabetical Listing of the Naturalists**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Disciplines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams, Charles Christopher</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1873-1955</td>
<td>ecology, biogeography</td>
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<td>Adamson, Robert Stephen</td>
<td>England-South Africa</td>
<td>1885-1965</td>
<td>botany, phytogeography</td>
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<td>Agassiz, Louis</td>
<td>Switzerland-United States</td>
<td>1807-1873</td>
<td>zoology, glaciology</td>
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<td>Allen, Joel Asaph</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1838-1921</td>
<td>mammalogy, ornithology, zoogeography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anderson, Edgar</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1897-1969</td>
<td>plant genetics</td>
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<td>Andrews, Herbert G.</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1879-1960</td>
<td>animal ecology</td>
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<td>Bailey, Irving Widmer</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1884-1967</td>
<td>botany, forestry</td>
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<td>Baker, Frank Collins</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1867-1942</td>
<td>malacology, paleontology, ecology</td>
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<td>Barbour, Thomas</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1884-1946</td>
<td>herpetology, natural history</td>
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<td>Bartholomew, John George</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>1860-1920</td>
<td>cartography, geography</td>
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<td>Barton, John</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>1799-1852</td>
<td>agriculture, chemistry</td>
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<td>Bates, Henry Walter</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>1825-1892</td>
<td>entomology, evolutionary biology, field biology</td>
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<td>Bequaert, Joseph Charles</td>
<td>Belgium-United States</td>
<td>1886-1982</td>
<td>malacology</td>
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<td>Bering, Edward Willibr</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1875-1945</td>
<td>palaeontology, botany</td>
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<td>Billings, William Dwight</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1910-1997</td>
<td>ecology, botany</td>
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<td>Bland, Thomas</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>1809-1885</td>
<td>malacology</td>
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<td>Blanchard, William Thomas</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>1832-1905</td>
<td>geology, zoology</td>
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<td>Bonaparte, Charles Lucien Jules Laurent</td>
<td>France-Italy</td>
<td>1803-1857</td>
<td>ornithology, systematicstics</td>
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<td>Bory de Saint-Vincent, Baron Jean Baptiste</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>1778-1846</td>
<td>natural history, exploration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boulen, George Albert</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1858-1897</td>
<td>ichthyology, herpetology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowyer, Frederick Onex</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>1855-1948</td>
<td>botany</td>
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<td>Braun, L. E.</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1889-1971</td>
<td>ecology, floristics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Braun-Blanquet, Josias</td>
<td>Switzerland-France</td>
<td>1884-1960</td>
<td>plant ecology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Bray, William L. (United States 1865-1953) botany, forestry
- Brongniart, Adolphe-Théodore (France 1801-1876) botany, paleobotany, systematics
- Brooks, Charles Ernest Peixham (England 1888-1957) climatology
- Brown, Robert (Scotland 1773-1858) botany
- Brues, Charles Thomas (United States 1879-1955) entomology
- Buffon, G.-L. Leclerc, Comte de (France 1707-1788) natural history: 
- Buxton, Patrick Alfred (England 1892-1955) medical entomology

CCCCC

- Cain, Stanley Adair (United States 1902-1995) phytogeography, ecology, conservation
- Camp, Wendell Holmes (United States 1904-1963) botany, horticulture, field biology
- Campbell, Douglas H. (United States 1899-1953) botany
- Candolle, Alphonse Louis Pierre Pyrame de (France-Switzerland 1806-1893) botany, phytogeography
- Candolle, Augustin-Pyramus de (Switzerland-France 1778-1841) botany, phytogeography
- Charrey, Ralph Works (United States 1890-1971) paleobotany
- Chapin, James Paul (United States 1889-1964) ornithology, field biology
- Chapman, Frank Michter (United States 1884-1945) ornithology
- Chapman, Royval Norton (United States 1889-1939) animal ecology, entomology
- Clark, Andrew Hill (Canada-United States 1911-1975) historical geography
- Clark, Hubert Lyman (United States 1870-1947) invertebrate zoology
- Clausen, Jens Christen (Denmark-United States 1891-1969) ecological genetics, botany
- Clements, Frederic E. (United States 1874-1945) plant ecology
- Coe, Wesley Roswell (United States 1869-1960) invertebrate zoology, marine biology
- Cooke, May Thacher (United States 1885-1963) economic zoology, ornithology
- Cooper, James G. (United States 1830-1902) natural history
- Cooper, William Skinner (United States 1884-1978) ecology
- Cuéllar, Henry Chandler (United States 1899-1939) ecology, botany
- Cowles, Raymond B. (South Africa-United States 1896-1975) herpetology, physiological ecology
- Curtis, John T. (United States 1913-1961) botany, plant ecology
- Coulier, Georges (France 1769-1832) vertebrate paleontology: 

DDDDD

- Dahl, Eilif (Norway 1916-1993) lichenology, phytogeography, plant ecology
- Dammerman, Karel Willem (Netherlands 1885-1951) entomology
- Dana, James Dwight (United States 1813-1895) geology, natural history: 
- Darwin, Charles (England 1809-1882) evolutionary biology, natural history: 
- Daubenmire, Rexford F. (United States 1909-1995) ecology, botany
- Dawson, George Mercer (Canada 1849-1901) geology, anthropology
- Devay, Edward Smith, Jr. (United States 1914-1988) ecology, limnology & paleolimnology
- Dice, Lee Raymond (United States 1889-1977) mammalogy, ecology
- Dobzhansky, Theodosius (Russia-United States 1900-1975) evolutionary biology, genetics: 
- Dobuzhansky, Thediosius (Russia-United States 1900-1975) evolutionary biology, genetics: 
- Dobuzhansky, Thediosius (Russia-United States 1900-1975) evolutionary biology, genetics: 
- Dokuchaev, Vasiliy Vasilievich (Russia 1846-1903) soils, physical geography
- Douglass, Andrew Eldredge (United States 1867-1962) paleobotany, dendrochronology
- Drude, Carl Georg Oscar (Germany 1852-1933) botany, ecology, biogeography
- Dunn, Emmett Reid (United States 1894-1956) herpetology
- Du Rietz, G. Einar (Sweden 1885-1967) botany, ecology, phytogeography
- Du Toit, Alexander Louis (South Africa 1878-1948) geology

EEEEEE

- Egler, Frank Edwin (United States 1911-1996) botany, ecology, conservation
- Eigenmann, Carl (Germany-United States 1863-1927) ichthyology
- Elisey, Loren (United States 1907-1977) anthropology, natural history: 
- Elton, Charles Sutherland (England 1900-1991) ecology
- Ekman, Sven (Sweden 1876-1954) oceanography, limnology, field biology, biogeography
- Engel, Adolf (Germany 1844-1930) botany, biogeography, systematics
- Epling, Carl (United States 1894-1968) botany, evolutionary biology

FFFFF

- Fernand, Merrill Lyndon (United States 1873-1950) botany, paleobotany, phytogeography
- Fisher, Ronald Aylmer (England 1890-1962) genetics, mathematical statistics
- Fleming, John (Scotland 1785-1857) zoology, geology
- Florin, Rudolf (Sweden 1894-1965) paleobotany, plant morphology
- Forbes, Edward (England 1815-1854) geology, zoology, oceanography
- Forbes, Stephen Alfred (United States 1844-1930) entomology, ecology
- Forsyth, Johann Georg Adam (Germany 1754-1794) geography, natural history
- Forsyth, Johann Reinhold (Germany-England 1729-1798) natural history
- Forsberg, F. Raymond (United States 1908-1993) botany, floristics
- Fraenkel, Gottfried Samuel (Germany-United States 1901-1964) entomology, physiology
- Fry, Frederick Ernest Joseph (England-Canada 1908-1989) physiology, ecology, limnology, fisheries science

GGGGG
• Gadow, Hans Friedrich (Germany-England 1855-1928) zoology, zoogeography
• Gaussen, Henri (France 1891-1981) phytogeography, geography, cartography
• Geiger, Rudolf (Germany 1894-1981) meteorology, climatology
• Gentili, Joseph Hefetz (Italy-Australia 1812-2000) ornithology, geography
• Gibbs, Lilian Suzanne (England 1870-1925) botany, field biology
• Gill, Theodore Nicholas (United States 1837-1914) ichthyology, taxonomy
• Gleason, Henry A. (United States 1862-1975) botany, ecology
• Gloger, Constantin Wilhelm (Poland-Germany 1803-1863) ornithology
• Godman, Frederick Du Cane (England 1834-1919) natural history
• Godman, Sir Henry (England 1901-1985) ecology, palynology, paleoecology
• Godwin, Sir Harry (England 1901-1985) ecology, palynology, paleoecology
• Goldman, Edward Alphonso (United States 1873-1946) mammalogy, field biology
• Good, Ronald O'Dwyer (England 1896-1925) botany, phytogeography
• Gould, John (England 1804-1881) ornithology, publishing, illustration
• Gray, Asa (United States 1810-1888) botany, phytogeography, floristics: try Google!
• Grinnell, Joseph (United States 1877-1939) vertebrate zoology, natural history, field biology
• Grisebach, August Heinrich Rudolf (Germany 1814-1879) botany, phytogeography
• Gulick, John T. (United States 1832-1923) evolutionary biology
• Günther, Albert C. L. G. (Germany-England 1830-1914) ichthyology, herpetology
• Guyot, Henry Brougham (England 1854-1926) natural history

HHHHH
• Haeckel, Ernst (Germany 1834-1919) evolutionary biology, zoology: try Google!
• Haldane, J. B. S. (England 1892-1964) genetics, biochemistry, physiology
• Hansen, Henry Paul (United States 1907-1989) botany, palynology
• Hardy, Alistair Clavering (England 1896-1985) marine biology
• Harper, Roland McMillan (United States 1878-1949) botany, phytogeography
• Harrison, Launcelot (Australia 1880-1928) zoology
• Harshberger, John William (United States 1863-1929) botany, phytogeography, conservation
• Hey, Oliver Perry (United States 1846-1930) vertebrate paleontology
• Hedley, Charles (England-Australia 1892-1929) malacology
• Heer, Oswald (Switzerland 1809-1883) paleontology, botany, entomology
• Herting, Angelo (United States 1853-1907) natural history, exploration
• Henderson, Lawrence Joseph (United States 1878-1942) biochemistry, physiology
• Henning, Will (Germany 1913-1976) entomology, systematics
• Herbertson, Andrew John (England 1865-1915) geography
• Hess, Richard (Germany 1866-1944) zoology, animal ecology
• Hewitt, Charles Gordon (England-Canada 1885-1920) entomology, conservation
• Hidebrand, Samuel F. (United States 1883-1949) ichthyology
• Hjort, Johan (Norway 1869-1948) marine biology
• Höck, Leslie R. (United States 1907-1969) paleontology, malacology
• Hocker, Joseph Dalton (England 1817-1911) botany, phytogeography, floristics: try Google!
• Howell, A. Brazier (United States 1886-1961) mammalogy, anatomy
• Hubbs, Carl Leavitt (United States 1894-1979) ichthyology
• Hulme, Frederick Edward (England 1841-1900) natural history, art & illustration
• Huxley, Thomas H. (England 1825-1895) zoology, evolutionary biology, philosophy: try Google!

IIIIII
• Ichneumon, Hermann von (Germany-Brazil 1850-1930) paleontology, malacology

JJJJJ
• Jordan, David Starr (United States 1851-1931) ichthyology, college administration
• Just, Theodor Karl (Austria-United States 1904-1960) paleobotany

KKKKK
• Kalela, Oлав (Finland 1908-1974) animal ecology, mammalogy
• Kaino, Vernon Lyman (United States 1867-1937) entomology, science administration
• Kendall, Eric Oskar Gunnar (Sweden 1894-1981) botany, phytogeography
• Humboldt, Alexander von (Germany 1769-1859) physical geography, natural history: try Google!
• Hutchinson, George Evelyn (United States 1903-1991) ecology: try Google!
• Hutton, Frederick Wollaston (England-New Zealand 1836-1905) geology, zoology
• Huxley, Thomas H. (England 1825-1895) zoology, evolutionary biology, philosophy: try Google!

LLLLL
• Lack, David (England 1910-1973) ornithology, ecology, population biology
• Latreille, Pierre-André (France 1762-1833) entomology
Leopold, Aldo (United States 1877-1948) wildlife biology, conservation: try Google!
Liebig, Justus von (Germany 1803-1873) chemistry
Livingston, Burton Edward (United States 1875-1948) physiological ecology
Longwell, Chester Ray (United States 1887-1975) geology
Lönnberg, Einar (Sweden 1865-1942) zoology
Lotka, Alfred James (United States 1880-1949) statistics, demography
Lydekker, Richard (England 1849-1915) mammalogy, paleontology
Lyell, Charles (England 1797-1875) geology: try Google!

Marie-Victorin, Frère (aka Conrad Kirouac) (Canada 1885-1944) botany, floristics
Marsh, George Perkins (United States 1801-1882) philology, physical geography, diplomacy
Martin, Karl Friedrich Philipp von (Germany 1794-1868) botany
Martindale, Emmanuel de (France 1873-1955) physical geography
Matthew, William Diller (Canada-United States 1871-1930) vertebrate paleontology, zoogeography
Mayr, Ernst W. (Germany-United States 1904-2005) evolutionary biology, ornithology, systematics: try Google!
McAtee, Waldo Lee (United States 1883-1962) ornithology, conservation
Merrill, Elmer Drew (United States 1868-1956) botany, floristics, science administration
Metcalf, Maynard Mayo (United States 1868-1949) zoology, evolutionary biology
Meyer, Franz Julius Ferdinand (Germany 1804-1840) botany
Miller, Robert Rush (United States 1816-2003) ichthyology, evolutionary biology
Morris, John Alexander (United States 1915-2002) zoology, science education
Moore, Robert Thomas (United States 1882-1956) ornithology
Moreau, Reginald E. (England 1897-1970) ornithology
Myers, George Sprague (United States 1905-1985) ichthyology, zoogeography
Neumayr, Melchior (Germany-Austria 1845-1890) invertebrate paleontology, geology
Newbigin, Marion Isabel (Scotland 1869-1934) geography, biology
Noble, Gladwyn Kingsley (United States 1894-1940) herpetology, experimental biology
Odum, Eugene Pleasants (United States 1913-2002) ecology
Oliver, Walter Reginald Brock (Australia-New Zealand 1883-1957) natural history, museology
Oosting, Henry J. (United States 1903-1968) plant ecology
Ortmann, Arnold Edward (Prussia-United States 1863-1927) invertebrate zoology & paleontology, zoogeography
Osborn, Henry Fairfield (United States 1857-1935) vertebrate paleontology, museology
Osborn, (Henry) Fairfield, Jr. (United States 1887-1969) conservation, natural history
Owen, Richard (England 1804-1892) anatomy, vertebrate zoology & paleontology: try Google!

Rand, Austin Loomer (Canada-United States 1905-1982) ornithology, mammalogy
Ratze, Friedrich (Germany 1844-1904) geography, ethnology
Raukis, Olaf (Latvia 1890-1938) plant ecology
Rea, Hugh Miller (United States 1901-1995) plant ecology, phytogeography
Reid, Clement (England 1853-1916) geology, paleobotany
Rensch, Bernhard (Germany 1900-1990) evolutionary biology, systematics
Richardson, Sir John (Scotland-England 1787-1865) exploration, natural history
Ridley, Henry Nicholas (England 1855-1956) economic botany, phytogeography
• **Willdenow, Karl Ludwig**
  (Germany 1765-1812) phytogeography, taxonomy

• **White, Gilbert** (England 1720-1793) natural history

• **Went, Frits W.**
  (Netherlands-United States 1903-1990) phytogeography

• **Wegener, Alfred** (Germany 1880-1930) meteorology

• **Weber, Max W. C.** (Germany-Netherlands 1852-1937) zoology, field biology

• **Watt, Alexander S.**
  (Scotland-England 1784-1876) paleontology

• **Watson, Hewlett Cottrell**
  (England-Australia 1903-1936) ichthyology

• **Waterschoot van der Gracht, Willem A. J. M. van**

• **Warming, Johannes Eugenius**
  (Denmark 1798-1867) zoology

• **Wallace, Alfred Russel**
  (England 1823-1913) natural history

• **Wagner, Moritz Friedrich**

• **Wagner, Johann Andreas**
  (Germany 1797-1861) zoology, vertebrate paleontology

• **Wagner, Martin Friedrich**
  (Germany 1813-1887) natural history, geography

• **Waller, Alfred Russel**
  (England 1823-1913) evolutionary biology, zoogeography, anthropology

• **Warming, Johannes Eugenius Blix**
  (Denmark 1841-1924) plant ecology

• **Waterschoot van der Gracht, Willem A. J. M. van**
  (Netherlands-United States 1873-1943) geology

• **Watson, Hewlett Cottrell**
  (England 1804-1881) phytogeography

• **Watt, Alexander S.** (Scotland-England 1892-1967) botany

• **Weber, Max W. C.** (Germany-Netherlands 1852-1937) zoology, field biology

• **Wegener, Alfred** (Germany 1880-1930) meteorology: try Google!

• **Went, Frits W.** (Netherlands-United States 1903-1990) plant physiology

• **White, Gilbert** (England 1720-1793) natural history: try Google!

• **Whitney, Gilbert Percy** (England-Australia 1903-1976) ichthyology, history

• **Willdenow, Karl Ludwig** (Germany 1765-1812) phytogeography, taxonomy
- **Williams, C. Arrington** (England 1889-1981) entomology
- **Williams, Bailey** (United States 1857-1949) geology
- **Willis, John C.** (England 1868-1958) botany, phytogeography, evolutionary biology
- **Wilson, Alexander** (Scotland-United States 1766-1813) ornithology, poetry
- **Wodniok, Kazimierz** (Poland-New Zealand 1900-1987) zoology
- **Wollenberger, Daniel Q.** (United States 1904-1995) economic entomology
- **Wollaston, Thomas Verney** (England 1822-1878) entomology, malacology
- **Wood, Albert Elmer** (United States 1910-2002) vertebrate paleontology
- **Wright, Sewell** (United States 1889-1988) genetics, evolutionary biology, population biology: [try Google!]
- **Wulff, Evgenii V.** (Ukraine-Russia 1885-1941) botany, phytogeography
- **Wynne-Edwards, Vero C.** (England-Scotland 1906-1997) ecology, ornithology

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*The sketches produced here were compiled from dozens of standard paper and electronic reference sources, plus various obituaries and other analyses. The most important of these are listed in the individual entries under "For Additional Information"; for a considerable number of scientists relatively little biographical information is obtainable (in English, especially), however, and we have been forced to piece together smaller bits of information gathered from sources such as "Who's Who," "American Men and Women of Science," and the occasional website.*

* * *

**Some Biogeographers, Evolutionists and Ecologists: Chrono-Biographical Sketches** has been reviewed, profiled or catalogued in the following online and/or print venues: *Science*, *Humbul Humanities Hub* (website), *Scott's Botanical Links* (website), *EElink* (website), *The Biogeographer Newsletter*, *WorldCat* (OCLC database), and *Earth Science Sites of the Week* (website).

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