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Nota di contenuto	Introduction : Gorilla biology : multiple perspectives on variation within a genus / Andrea B. Taylor and Michele L. Goldsmith -- An introductory perspective : Gorillas -- how important, how many, how long? / Russell H. Tuttle -- A history of gorilla taxonomy / Colin P. Groves -- Patterns of diversity in gorilla cranial morphology / Rebecca M. Stumpf [and others] -- The hierarchy of intraspecific craniometric variation in gorillas : a population-thinking approach with implications for fossil species recognition studies / Gene H. Albrecht, Bruce R. Gelvin and Joseph M.A. Miller -- Morphological differentiation of Gorilla subspecies / Steven R. Leigh [and others] -- Ontogeny and function of the masticatory complex in Gorilla : functional, evolutionary and taxonomic implications / Andrea B. Taylor -- Intraspecific and ontogenetic variation in the forelimb morphology of Gorilla / Sandra E.

Inouye -- An introductory perspective : Gorilla systematics, taxonomy and conservation in the era of genomics / Oliver A. Ryder -- Mitochondrial and nuclear DNA estimates of divergence between western and eastern gorillas / Michael I. Jensen-Seaman, Amos S. Dienard and Kenneth K. Kidd -- Genetic studies of western gorillas / Stephen L. Clifford [and others] -- An introductory perspective : Behavioral ecology of gorillas / Caroline E.G. Tutin -- Gorilla social relationships : a comparative overview / David P. Watts -- Within-group feeding competition and socioecological factors influencing social organization of gorillas in the Kahuzi-Biega National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo / Juichi Yamagiwa [and others] -- Comparative behavioral ecology of a lowland and highland gorilla population : where do Bwindi gorillas fit? / Michele L. Goldsmith. Are gorillas vacuum cleaners of the forest floor? The roles of body size, habitat and food preferences on gorilla dietary flexibility and nutrition / Melissa J. Remis -- An introductory perspective : Gorilla conservation / Alexander H. Harcourt -- The current status of gorillas and threats to their existence at the beginning of a new millennium / Andrew J. Plumptre [and others] -- Distribution, taxonomy, genetics, ecology and causal links of gorilla survival : the need to develop practical knowledge for gorilla conservation / Esteban E. Sarmiento -- The Cross River gorilla : natural history and status of a neglected and critically endangered subspecies / John F. Oates [and others].

Sommario/riassunto

Gorillas are one of our closest living relatives, the largest of all living primates, and teeter on the brink of extinction. These fascinating animals are the focus of this in-depth and comprehensive examination of gorilla biology. Gorilla Biology combines recent research in morphology, genetics and behavioural ecology to reveal the complexity and diversity of gorilla populations. The first section focuses on morphological and molecular variation and underscores the importance of understanding diverse biological patterns at all levels in testing evolutionary and adaptive hypotheses and elucidating subspecies and species diversification. Following are discussions of the ecological constraints that influence gorilla social organization and highlight their surprising flexibility. The book ends with discussions of the conservation status of gorillas and the many and increasing threats to their continued survival. Giving insight into the evolutionary biology of these unique primates, this book will be essential reading for primatologists, anthropologists and evolutionary biologists.
