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| Nota di contenuto       | Recent Dynamics of the Mediterranean Vegetation and Landscape;<br>Contents; List of contributors; Preface; PART I OVERVIEW OF THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN; 1 Large-scale Post-glacial Distribution of Vegetation Structures in the Mediterranean Region; 2 Forest History in the Mediterranean Region; PART II SOUTHERN LANDSCAPES: GENERAL ISSUES; 3 Forest Cover Changes in the Maghreb Countries with Special Reference to Morocco; 4 Long-term Observation of Mediterranean Ecosystems with Satellite Remote Sensing; PART III SOUTHERN LANDSCAPES: CASE STUDIES<br>5 Landscape Dynamics in a Semi-arid Mediterranean Catchment (SE |

Spain)6 Recent Landscape Evolution in Dehesa Woodlands of Western Spain; 7 Landscape Dynamics in South-eastern Sicily in the Last 150 Years: The Case of the Iblei Mountains; 8 Land-use Changes and Landscape Dynamics in Western Crete; 9 Man-landscape Relationships in Mediterranean Areas: A Study of Landscape Changes in the Mount Carmel; PART IV NORTHERN LANDSCAPES: GENERAL ISSUES; 10 The Impact of Changes in Land Use on Ecological Patterns in Provence (Mediterranean France); 11 Vegetation Dynamics and Land Use in Epirus PART V NORTHERN LANDSCAPES: CASE STUDIES12 Recent Changes of Coastal and Sub-mountain Vegetation Landscape in Campania and Molise Regions in Southern Italy; 13 Consequences of Rural Abandonment in a Northern Apennines Landscape (Tuscany, Italy); 14 Changes in the Forested Agricultural Landscape of the Pisan Hills (Tuscany, Italy); 15 Historical Vegetation Dynamics: Archive and Pollen Evidence for Ancient Grassland and Plantation in Nineteenth-century Liguria (NW Italy); 16 Rural Changes and Landscape in Serra da Malcata, Central East of Portugal 17 Landscape Dynamics in the Area of Serra Da Arrabida and the Sado River Estuary18 Changes in Landscape Structure of the Natural Park of Alvao (Portugal); PART VI EDGE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA; 19 Land Abandonment and the Spreading of the Forest in the Eastern French Pyrenees in the Nineteenth to Twentieth Centuries; 20 The Natural Dynamics of Abandoned Chestnut Stands in Southern Switzerland; 21 Forest Cover Progression, Land-use and Socio-economic Changes on the Edge of the Mediterranean; PART VII EPILOGUE 22 Climate Change, Land-use Change and the "Desertification" of Mediterranean Europe23 Conclusion: Reversing the Consensus on Mediterranean Desertification; References; Index

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## Sommario/riassunto

The Mediterranean region has been shaped by human activity and maintained by traditional practices of land use for centuries. This has affected the distribution of plants and the landscape, which can be considered as part of the European cultural landscape. This book details the rapid changes that have taken place in the vegetation of the Mediterranean in the last half-century, a period in which major socio-economic development greatly affected the cultural and physical landscape.

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