

# WHAT IS “TRUE DIVERSITY” AND DIVERSITY PARTITIONING?

## S u m m a r y

The present paper describes and discusses the development in species richness and diversity measures research that has taken place mostly in the recent decade. The application of “number equivalents of standard diversity measures” (HILL 1973) enabled the first coherent and intuitively correct partitioning of gamma diversity into alpha and beta compo-

nents at any desired level for multicomunity datasets (JOST 2006, 2007), this being particularly useful in hierarchical experimental designs (KREBS, 1989). The formerly used additive partitioning of diversity, particularly into hierarchical components (LANDE 1996), is counterintuitive because beta diversity is confounded with alpha diversity (JOST 2006, 2007).