

Heinrich Walter

Heinrich Walter was born in Odessa and received advanced degrees from the University of Jena in 1919 and the University of Heidelberg in 1923. After post-doctoral work in the United States, he was Director of the Botanical Institute and Gardens in Stuttgart and then Professor at the University of Hohenheim. He is now Professor Emeritus, 86 years of age, and actively working at Stuttgart-Hohenheim.

Professor Walter's longstanding, numerous, and diverse contributions have done much to lay the foundations of modern, quantitative plant ecology. The theme that underlies and unifies his work is the relationships between plants and climate. Walter is the author or editor of 24 books and more than 150 scientific papers. Many of these are major seminal or synthetic works, and they

address a wide spectrum of topics from plant water relations to the vegetation of different climatic and geographic regions. The international influence of his work is indicated by his election to four Academies of Science, by the number of his books that have been translated into English, and by the almost universal adoption of his elegantly simple diagrams to quantify biologically important features of the annual climatic cycle using standard meteorological data.

Written by James H. Brown
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