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A State-Dependent Model of Forest Floor Development

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Abstract: A state-dependent, dynamic forest floor development model is presented. The model considers litterfall as input. The decomposition of the litter was modelled as influenced by the quality of litter and microclimatic conditions (temperature and moisture). Microclimatic conditions were determined based on weather data and stand structure. The predictions of the model compared with an independent data set suggested that the model functions realistically under a range of weather and stand conditions. The resulting model should be valuable in the prediction of fire behavior.

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