Abstract

Close physical interspecific associations called symbioses are central for

understanding both evolution and interactions of all branches of living creatures, as well

as shaping the Earth's physical features - in other words, they are essential for

understanding the nature of whole biosphere. Symbiotic research takes place in some

variation in all fields of biology, and since the nature of the phenomenon apparently has

a fundamental importance as an exceptional underlying & unifying scheme, there is

growing need for appropriate theoretical analysis. Here I discuss the theoretical frame,

definition and history of the concept of symbiotic interactions and its significance and

use in theoretical biology.

Keywords:

symbiosis, life, microorganisms, evolution, metaphors and models

7