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Effect of Excess Food Nutrient on Producer-Grazer Model under Stoichiometric and Toxicological Constraints

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Effect of Excess Food Nutrient on Producer-Grazer Model under Stoichiometric and Toxicological Constraints

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Abstract: Accurately assessing the risks of contaminants require more than an understanding of the effects of contaminants on individual organism, but requires further understanding of complex ecological interactions, elemental cycling, and the interactive effects of natural stressors, such as resource limitations, and contaminant stressors. There is an increasing evidence that organisms experience interactive effects of contaminant stressors and food conditions, such as resource stoichiometry, availability and excess of nutrient. We are developing and analyzing a series of empirically testable and robust mathematical models of populations dynamics subject to stoichiometric and contaminant stressors. In parallel to developing the models, we will integrate sufficient data from existing and new experiments to parameterize, test, and improve them. The synthesis of the models and experiments will result in the development of a robust theoretical framework appropriate for improved risk assessment applications in ecotoxicology that incorporate the effects of stoichiometric constraints on concurrent ecological and toxicological processes. In particularly, we are presenting the consequences of excess food nutrients on grazer population dynamics, a phenomenon called \textit{stoichiometric knife edge}. 