

Nutrient cycle in a tropical rainforest

Figure 1 on the right shows the movement of nutrients around a tropical rainforest ecosystem. The size of the circle or arrow represents the amount of nutrients being stored or transferred.

Figure 2 is the outline of a nutrient cycle diagram. It has options for the size of each circle and arrow shown by the dotted lines. (The circles and arrows shown with a solid line represent the original size)

Complete Figure 2 to show how the nutrient cycle would change when deforestation by a logging company has taken place and the forest has been cleared.

- Shade what you think is the correct size circle to show the amount of nutrients stored in the biomass, litter and soil.
- Shade what you think are the correct size arrows to show the movement of nutrients around the ecosystem as well as the inputs and outputs in the ecosystem
- In boxes A - H, write a short paragraph or sentence to explain the size of the circle or arrow.

Figure 1. Nutrient Cycle in a tropical rainforest

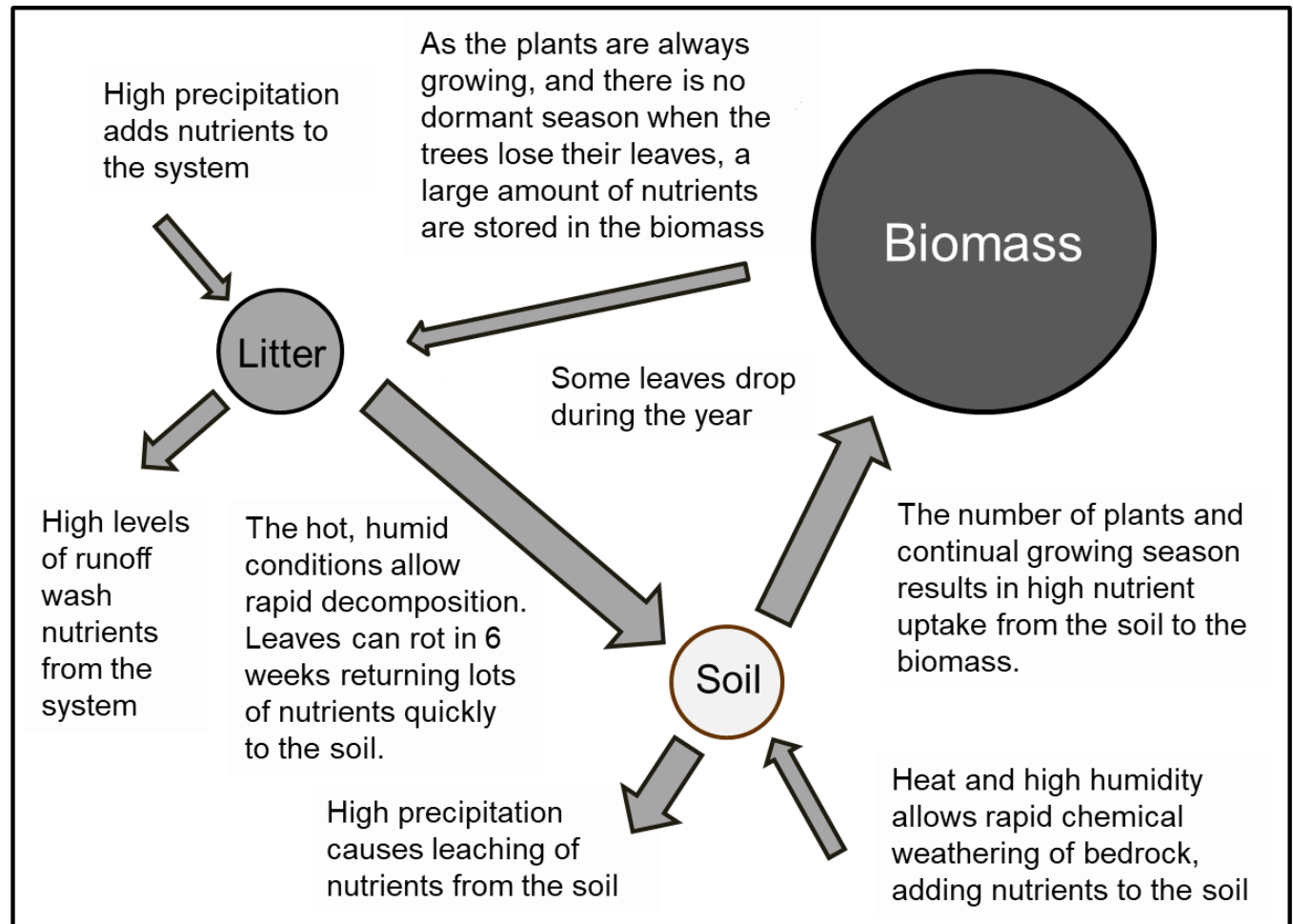


Figure 2. Nutrient cycle in a tropical rainforest after deforestation

