



Name: _____

Nutrient Retention and Root Mats in the Tropical Rain Forest - Reading & Assignment

Step 1: *Read the article at:*

<http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0012-9658%28197821%2959%3A3%3C434%3ANRBTRM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-7>

Note: If the link above does not work, the full citation is:

Nutrient Retention by the Root Mat of an Amazonian Rain Forest

Nellie M. Stark; Carl F. Jordan. *Ecology*, Vol. 59, No. 3. (Late Spring, 1978), pp. 434-437.
You can access this paper online through JSTOR or look it up in the library.

Step 2: On a *separate* sheet of paper, summarize the main concept of each paragraph (typed).

Step 3: Answer the questions below in the space provided (be *specific* where possible):

1. Suppose the information in this article is of use in a report you are preparing. In the space below, write out the citation for this article as you would in a literature citation at the end of your report (use the format we use for lab reports in 105 & 106, *not* the format above):

2. List 3 reasons that the soils in the Amazon Basin are poor and cannot support permanent agriculture:

1

2

3

3. How much radioactivity passed out of most of the plots? _____

4. What two radioisotopes were used in the experiments? _____ & _____

5. List one or two problems the authors ran into in the course of their experiment:

6. Summarize the experimental treatment: How many plots were there and how were the plots each treated with radioisotopes?

7. What was the authors' hypothesis?

8. Where was the experiment carried out?

9. What mechanisms might account for the rapid cycling of mineral nutrients?

10. From the paper's bibliography, list three sources for additional information on the *techniques* used in this paper (write out all author's names, don't use a "-----"):

and --> From the paper's bibliography, list two sources which might help you understand the *mechanisms of nutrient cycling* in forest soils (write out all author's names, don't use a "-----"):

Step 3: Attach your paragraph summaries and turn them in with this page (keep the article).