

communities (consortia, syntrophic or synergistic associations)

Naturally occurring groups of different (micro)organisms inhabiting a common environment, interacting with each other, especially through food relationships and relatively independent of other groups. Communities may be of varying sizes, and larger communities may contain smaller ones.

Source:

PAC, 1992, 64, 143 (*Glossary for chemists of terms used in biotechnology (IUPAC Recommendations 1992)*) on page 150