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Lichens Of The North Woods (Naturalist Series)



Synopsis

Lichens have the capability to dissolve granite. They are very colorful; oranges, yellows, greens, blacks and whites adorn trees, bedrock and even gravestones. This field guide spotlights 120 species, shown in color photos with natural history text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The photos are great and the author gives us a straightforward, factual presentation that could serve as a routine reference, but somehow he manages to reveal unabashed enthusiasm for these fascinating life forms. And that's what makes this little Readers' Digest-sized book come alive. The "Nature notes" on each page are worth the purchase price (which is minimal). Yes, these are lichens of the North Woods, but close relatives are found all over North America and, unless you are a lichenologist purist, this book will be useful wherever you live.

I have yet to find another lichen field guide worthy of the name, and it will be difficult for future editions to surpass this one. Walewski's excellent photographs greatly enhance the vivid descriptions provided for each lichen species, and the organization of lichen types makes identification quick and easy. Many of these lichens are also found outside the North Woods, so I take it everywhere with me. A great guide from a fantastic series!

I am an avid gardener and have had many excellent books on plants. I have always found lichens

very interesting but never knew anything about them, as most gardening/plant books do not mention them. This is a great small book with good images that makes using it easy and identification a lot easier.

I live in what I call the north woods, but our woods are in Idaho, not Minnesota. Still, I like the book enough that I will keep it and hope that the local lichens here will at least resemble the pictures in the book! The lichens are organized by the surface they grow on: ground, rocks and trees, and within those, by type: crustose, foliose, and fruticose. This is well written, beautifully illustrated. Each lichen is described in terms of its habit, appearance, chemistry, and similar species. Each lichen is also accompanied by a "nature note" which gives additional interesting information. I am taking this and my hand lens outside, to a huge rock in front of our house to see if I can identify any of the many different lichens that live on the rock. I've been a lichen fan since the age of 8!

As a collector of more field guides than any one person should ever need I am very pleased with the format of this field guide. The photographs are clear and colorful and the organization of the guide makes identification easy. The book includes a great deal of information on each species and on the biology of lichens in general. After this purchase I am looking into purchasing other books in this series as well.

Even though I live in Texas, there are many of the same lichens here and this book is helping me to learn about them. I was concerned when the book arrived and I saw how "small" it was...I couldn't imagine it would cover enough of the subject. But it covers plenty, and the photos and info are well done and user friendly. Glad to have it!

A wonderful book for the northwoods naturalist, clearly written, well organized with great photos. Perfect for exploring and identifying the lichen world.

I am very glad I got this one, clear descriptions of the various types of lichens found growing on various substrates gave me clues to ID the ones I find here in the South Eastern US. An it is clearly photographed, great description of how they grow, and it easily fits in a hip pocket, what's not to love?

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