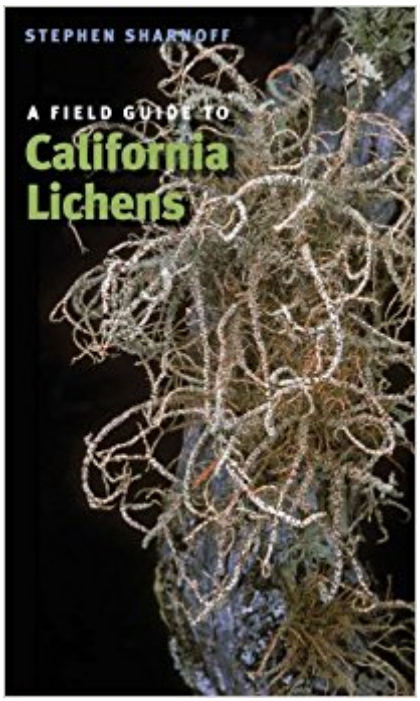
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A Field Guide To California Lichens



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Synopsis

The definitive guide to CaliforniaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s diverse array of lichen flora, with color photographs and descriptions of over 500 speciesÃ Â Lichens are among the most colorful and abundant organisms in the world. They provide food and nesting material for a wide variety of wildlife, contribute nutrients to the soil, and are indicators of both undisturbed ecosystems and clean air. They lend color and pattern to trees, shrubs, and rocks, yet most people know little about them. This richly illustrated, authoritative guide to the lichens of California draws new attention to these striking and ecologically important organisms, which are symbiontsÃ¢â ¬â •representing aÃ Â relationship between a fungus and algaÃ¢â ¬â •and highlights their beauty, diversity, and value as a natural resource. Ã Â Lichens are especially abundant and varied in California, where climates range from temperate rainforests to arid deserts. A Field Guide to California Lichens features stunning new photographs of some 500 lichen species by award-winning nature photographer Stephen Sharnoff. Up-to-date descriptions accompany each illustration. Among the special contributions of the guide are its coverage of most common macrolichens in California and its inclusion of many of the crust-forming species. For land management professionals and scientists involved with ecosystem studies, for birders, hikers, and all others curious about the natural world around them, this book will be a welcome field companion.Ã Â

Book Information

Paperback: 424 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press (May 27, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300195001

ISBN-13: 978-0300195002

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #973,947 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Taxonomic Classification #197 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Mushrooms #1639 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Botany

Customer Reviews

"Finally . . . a guidebook covering the fantastic California lichens with beautiful, full-color

photographs! Steve SharnoffÃ¢ ¬â„¢s book will find a place in the backpacks of all lichen-lovers on the West Coast."Ã¢ ¬â •Irwin Brodo, coauthor of Lichens of North America"Lichens abhor pollution, shun the freshly-paved. Think to a special place you love for its wildnessÃ¢ ¬â •the desert, a forest, a salty ocean bluffÃ¢ ¬â •and itÃ¢ ¬â„¢s likely you can picture its lichens. Just as lichens lend the color and grace that make a good place great, SharnoffÃ¢ ¬â„¢s worshipful lichen photos make this great book unforgettable."Ã¢ ¬â •Dan Gluesenkamp, Executive Director, California Native Plant Society"Lichens are of great interest to the general public as well as professionals. This book will stimulate that widespread interest."Ã¢ ¬â •Kerry Knudsen, Lichen Curator, University of California Riverside Herbarium"All Californians should be grateful for the appearance of this fine guide, a welcome introduction to the study of abundant but often unnoticed organisms that play such critical roles in the balance of nature."Ã¢ ¬â •Peter H. Raven, President Emeritus, Missouri Botanical Garden"Sharnoff has added a remarkable tool for the study of California lichens! This resource will be invaluable to professionals, amateurs, and beginners. The images are magnificent, and the information is readily accessible."Ã¢ ¬â •Larry St. Clair, Brigham Young University

Stephen Sharnoff is research associate at the Missouri Botanical Garden and the University and Jepson Herbaria, University of California, Berkeley. A renowned nature photographer best known for his contributions to the definitive reference Lichens of North America, he is currently at work on a guidebook to the wildflowers of the Sierra Nevada. He lives in Berkeley, CA.

Really great photographs and accurate useful descriptions. The overall layout of the book is good. As has been said by others there is no taxonomic key in the book but that would be difficult and I don’t know of any lichen field guide that has a key. I just wish that it would rain more in California so that the lichens would revitalize and I could get out and observe them.

Best available publication on California lichens.....for a novice individual just learning about Lichens, it can almost be over whelming.With patience and time I am sure it will fill that "vacant" niche in my Natural history library.....I am already using it both in the field and with some collected specimens. It truly opened my eyes to the number and in some cases close similarities of our rich lichen flora in California.

While in many cases you can match a picture to the lichen you have in hand, it might have been

nice to include a key in this new book. In order to key out what you have, you have to go to another resource. All-in-all, a very helpful guide to California Lichens!

Lots of great photographs.

Very well written. Some of the vocabulary was a bit recondite, but fortunately had a good appendix.

Incredibly useful when trying to get an unknown lichen to genus, pictures are clear and have great detail, genus and species description short yet succinct

Wonderful book on lichens, well written and pretty too.There are not many lichen books out there, this one is a gem.

Love this book. I have recently become interested in lichen and this book has helped me identify those in my garden. Great resource.

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