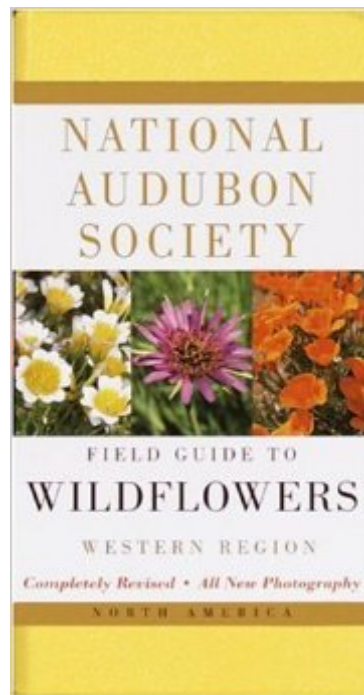


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National Audubon Society Field Guide To North American Wildflowers: Western Region



Synopsis

WESTERN REGION This fully revised edition brings a new level of beauty, accuracy, and usefulness to the field guide that wildflower enthusiasts have relied upon for more than 20 years. More than 940 all-new, full-color images show the wildflowers of western North America close-up and in their natural habitats. The guide has been completely revised to make identification in the field easier than ever. Images are grouped by flower color and shape and keyed to clear, concise descriptions that reflect current taxonomy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I take this (as well as the Peterson Field Guide to Pacific States Wildflowers) with me on all my wildflower hunting trips. The extensive color photos are extremely helpful for identifying wildflowers. Flowers are organized by color. This has by far more real flower pictures than the Peterson Field Guide.

"What kind of wildflower is this, Dad?" "I don't know?" "Is it poisonous?" "I don't know." "It's sure pretty." "Yes, it is pretty." The above was always my reply to my children's questions about the wildflowers we saw whenever we took our family journeys into the Great Basin Desert, or high into the Pahvant Mountains. I got tired of saying, "I don't know." Well, because of the "National Audubon Society's Field Guide to Wildflowers" (Wester Edition) I know now, to tell my children to stay away from the (poisonous) Water Hemlock which I always thought previously was wild carrots. Now I can answer their question and impress them with my knowledge at the same time. I would like to suggest

this field guide to any of you family outdoor enthusiasts, especially fathers, so you don't get caught in the I don't know syndrome. The same applies for all the birds you see on your excursions--"What kind of bird is that, Dad?"--sound familiar? Well don't fret, you can click on my name, in this review, and find a field guide to Birds. Then you'll be doubly prepared. Good luck, from a father like you.

The book is well organized, comprehensive, and fairly easy to use. Flowers are organized by color, like the Audubon bird books. The only problem I find is that the pictures of foliage are not always clear because the focus is on the flowers. Unfortunately, most wildflowers have a fairly brief period of bloom. The difficulty of identifying a plant by foliage limits the usefulness of the book slightly.

All of Audobon's books are great because they will fit in a pocket or day-pack. Nicely organized and includes awesome full color pictures that really help in the identification. The information on the flowers is very extensive. A must for anyone who likes flowers and wants to know what kind they have.

This guide is easy to use. Flowering plants are grouped by the color of the flower, and within the color, by the form of the flower. Good range maps, and good description. I would have liked more views of the entire plant, not just the flower. Otherwise excellent for botanizing, which I do full bore in our short spring and summer seasons.

I use the Audubon book to identify birds and love it. This one is set up the same way. You don't have to know anything to identify the flowers yet once identified there is a page number directing you to plenty of "technical" info if you want it. Roughly the first half of the book is devoted to pictures (glossy, close-up & full-color). They are in sections according to color. You can easily fan the edges of the pages to find the right color then narrow your search w/in that color to things such as "clusters" or "vines, shrubs & trees". Once you have identified the flower the picture gives you a page in the back part of the book that gives you info on flowering time, habitat, range, etc. Great book.

Perhaps this is my fault more than anything, but this is the 1979 edition. The pictures are really poor quality and the physical pages are too cheap to be a rugged field guide. It also contains several errors that were later corrected. I wish I had looked closer to see the year, otherwise I would have ordered the newer version.

Got this as a gift. Is perfect except that it was just tossed in the box with my other purchases and the cover and several pages got bent. I took 1 star off to reflect my displeasure about that. The book itself gets 5 stars.

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