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The Mushroom Hunter's Field Guide



Synopsis

The Mushroom Hunter's Field Guide is the guide that tells when, where, and how to find delicious edible mushrooms and how to avoid poisonous ones. Beginners as well as experts will be able to identify mushrooms in a matter of minutes. All of the mushrooms included are illustrated in beautiful color, adding visual enjoyment to the textual materials. The descriptions are tinged with wit and wisdom, making the use of this guide an enjoyable and rewarding experience. This edition of The Mushroom Hunter's Field Guide should be useful throughout the United States and Canada, but users should remember that each region has certain species peculiar to it, and it is impossible to include all of them here. The coverage is best for the Northeast, Great Lakes region, Rocky Mountains, and the Pacific Northwest. It includes most of the truly fine edible wild mushrooms, whether they are common or rare. It also includes the most dangerous ones in order that collectors may recognize them for what they are. "Whether you are picking mushrooms to eat, or simply want to identify the many strange and beautiful mushrooms you find on walks through the woods, this field guide is highly recommended."-- American Horticulturalist "This is the mushroom forager's Bible. Don't go into the wilderness without it."--Creative Living". . . should be on the bookshelf of all serious amateurs, and the professionals will also find it helpful."--Mycologia The late Alexander H. Smith was Professor Emeritus of Botany, University of Michigan. Nancy Smith Weber is Associate Professor of Forest Science, Oregon State University.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a nice book to augment a collection, but is not complete. The set of guides written by Smith

and his daughter (Weber) do not overlap. This means that you need this book and the edition for the south in order to look up mushrooms in the south. There are no mentions of spore print colors in the individual entries, which makes for a lot of thumbing back and forth between the specific entries and the genus descriptions

I was glad I added this one to my collection and library. As others have pointed out, it certainly is not an all inclusive work by any means, but I did find the photography well done and the book to be helpful IF I use it in conjunction with other works. I cannot stress the "IF" enough. I photograph wild flowers as a hobby but cannot pass up a good shot of any mushrooms I come across in my wonderings. This is a good field guide to carry in the car and it usually gives me enough information to get a good start on identification after the photography work is done and I have time to properly research the photographed subject. I suspect the very, very serious collector or professional would need much more than is offered here, but for my purposes, it works just fine.

This book contains excellent color photos to match the color tones and size characteristics of the mushrooms in the Midwest. We typically search in the areas south of Lake Superior.

This is the best mushroom book for beginning mushroom hunters in the Lake States, written by a career University of Michigan mycologist who collected and described many new species in the Lake States for 40 years or more. D.L. Richter, Ph.D. Mycology/Pathology

I really enjoyed reading the "This is what a mushroom is" introduction chapter. Every mushroom guide feels the need to tell you "this is the cap", etc. This time the author actually taught with clear, friendly wording. The area of expertise for this guide is for the Northeast to the Northwest, Great Lakes, and into Canada. I've found it useful here in the Southeast on a few occasions. With changing weather climates and patterns, all sorts of things can happen. I feel the pictures and reference information are detailed and clear. Surely useful, even in Wisconsin. Great book made for the hunt, just wear a coat with wide pockets.

Only drawback is that they don't tell you what the common names are...but the picks help greatly and the writing is very down to earth. A little age on this - 1996 - but how much have mushrooms changed over the ages?

I bought this book as a gift expecting to find a definitive guide to edible mushrooms. Instead it appears to be a guide to all mushrooms. It does give adequate information regarding each species and the photographs are nice. The recipient of this book seemed quite pleased with it as it identifies those mushrooms NOT to be eaten quite emphatically.

Too much information. It is like the author is trying to out my myco geek the last most technical book. Pictures are lacking, and the quality of the existing pics lack quality and scale. If you are a biology grad student, this is for you.

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