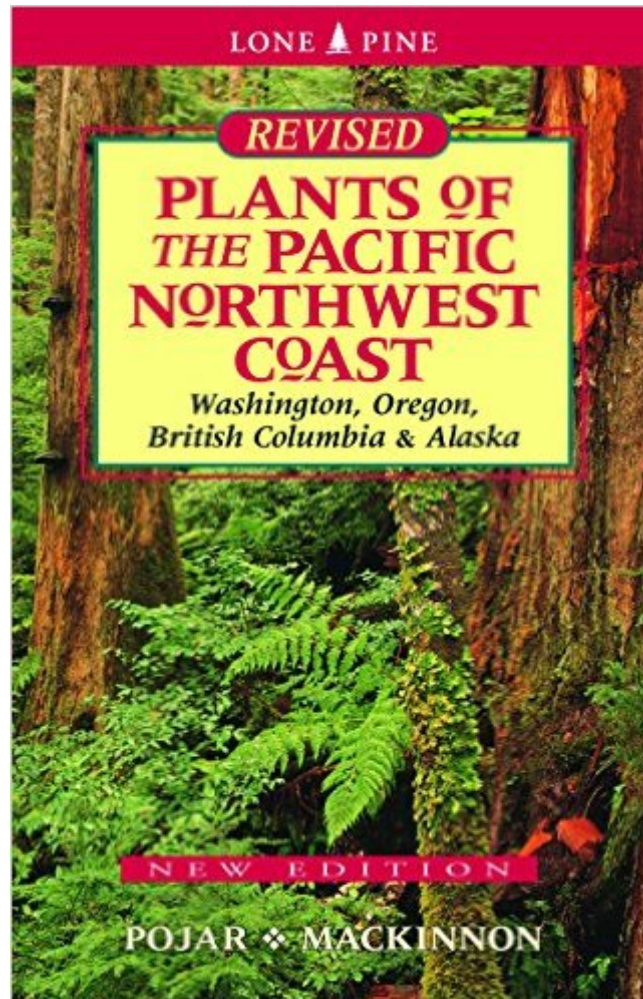


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Plants Of The Pacific Northwest Coast



Synopsis

This classic, bestselling field guide features 794 species of plants commonly found along the Pacific coast from Oregon to Alaska, including trees, shrubs, wildflowers, aquatic plants, grasses, ferns, mosses and lichens. Areas covered are the coastal region from shoreline to alpine, including the western Cascades -- from tide pools to rain forests and meadows. Included in this massive, indispensable guide are 1100 color photographs; more than 1000 line drawings and silhouettes; clear species descriptions and keys to groups; descriptions of each plant's habitat and range; 794 range maps in color; indexes, glossary, and bibliography. Rich and engaging notes on each species describe aboriginal and other local uses of plants for food, medicine and implements, along with unique characteristics of the plants and the origins of their names. For both amateurs and professionals, this is the best and most accessible guide of its kind.

Book Information

Paperback: 528 pages

Publisher: Partners Publishing; New edition (December 6, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1772130087

ISBN-13: 978-1772130089

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 1.1 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (146 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #48,486 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) [#19 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Forests & Rainforests](#) [#22 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Forestry](#) [#29 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Trees](#)

Customer Reviews

This is simply the best field guide on any subject I have ever encountered. Photos are clear and often come in both full plant and detail perspectives; text is accurate, clear, well-written, and thorough; and the book is intuitively organized, providing easy-to-use keys, and a text-alongside-photo format that means less page flipping in the field. The cover is water-resistant, too! Packs an amazing number of plant species, including many bryophytes and lichens, as well as ferns and seed-bearing plants. Even covers many grasses! I live in California, and although many of the plants in this book don't reach down to my area, it is still the first field guide I pick up when trying to key a plant, because I am almost sure to get the family here, and usually the genus as well. Once

you have those, it's much easier to cross-reference to your local species and varieties. If you didn't love plants obsessively before, this book will make you want to start!

For anyone interested in Northwest Native Plants, this is an essential reference. Arthur Lee Jacobsen's "Wild Plants of Greater Seattle" is another useful book, although not as detailed. "Vascular plants of the Pacific Northwest", by Charles Leo Hitchcock, in 7 volumes for \$300.00, is much more detailed but not as handy. I have used my "Pojar" so much that I wore it out and had to get a second copy. I found it useful when I was just beginning to learn about native plants, and now that I can identify over 200 species on sight, I still use it to learn about ethnobotany, which plants are edible, and where to plant them in my garden. Another reviewer complained that the book does not list common names in the index. This is just plain wrong. You can look up plants in the index by common name or scientific name, or you can browse through the photos until you get a match. You can also use the keys, which is the best way to learn about the relationship of one species to another, but I'm usually too lazy to work through the process. The way the plants are grouped, it's easy to narrow it down and find your plant. My one complaint about the book is that it is sometimes difficult to pin down whether or not a particular plant is actually a native. This is usually implied, especially when they tell how indigenous peoples used the plants in everyday life, but I wish the plants were clearly marked Native and Non-Native.

I used this book extensively in a field class this summer and it was extremely helpful. Everything I would possibly want to know about NW flora was included in detail (even with sketches of individual leaves). Also, the ethnographic information regarding the uses of various herbal medicines was fascinating.

This is a staple for plant identification in the Northwest. As a plant biologist for the National Park service, this was the book we never went into the field without. Because of its clear color photographs, thorough taxonomical descriptions, and wide array of species, it was the first we would consult, and then cross reference with other resources if we needed to. It's also quite durable!

This is by far the best study and field guide to Northwest plants. Nothing else comes close to being so inclusive. Because of that, I think, the book can be a bit difficult to get through. A little knowledge of plants will help tremendously in using the guide. There are a couple dozen or so keys for various plant families but be warned that keying plants can be difficult. The pictures are great and the notes

that accompany each picture are top notch. One thing I like is that the author gives copious notes about aboriginal and regional use of the plants as well as notes about their natural history. There's really a life time of learning here. Great book.

I was tempted to give this book a four star rating because I, so far, have found very few of the plants I've looked for in this book, but that wouldn't be fair to this well written book. The problem is that I live in eastern Washington and this book is about plants of the Pacific Northwest coast. Even though I camp and hike the Cascades quite often I still have some trouble finding what I'm looking for in this book. I've never seen so many plants in one book I can't find. But because this book is so well laid out, with so much excellent information, and so many excellent photos of so many different kinds of plants (and even trees) I have to give it five stars. Even though this book is a chunk (I'm guessing about two pounds) I still can't help but take it with me on my excursions even when weight is a major factor. That's how well done this book is; the photos and information on every plant are unsurpassed. So, if you live, camp or hike on the Coast of the Pacific Northwest and want to know more about the plants around you I don't see not owning this book. I live on the east side of the State and I don't see not owning this book. I think it's a five star book for the novice (which I am) as well as the experienced forager (which I'm becoming, and I've heard experienced foragers praise this book. One held this book up and said "this is one of the best books you could own" and I thought, hey, I have that book). Call me crazy, but this book stays in my pack.

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