

the map, although this is not necessarily a concern because occurrences are listed in the species treatments as well.

The illustrations in the volume are very nice. Twenty-eight percent of the species in the volume are illustrated, including species in each of the four families. Other published volumes have illustrations that are easily sized to one-half of a page, but in this volume they are smaller, closer to one-third of a page. This probably conserved space in this large volume, but there does not seem to be any loss of detail. In fact, the Rosaceae illustrations are quite detailed, enough so to highlight subtle differences between similar species, such as those within the genera *Rosa* or *Potentilla*, especially as there are scale bars for each species within an illustration—helpful to nonbotanists who may not have an eye for the difference between 1 and 2 mm. Illustrated species have a box code of “F” within their treatment, but unfortunately within the treatment there is no page number listed for the illustration. One must either flip some pages to search for it (e.g., *Geum triflorum* is treated on p. 62, but the illustration is on p. 52 within the *Rubus* treatments) or find the species in the index. The italicized page numbers in the index specify the page of the illustration, but the font used in the book does not allow italic numbers to be easily discerned.

The keys in this volume work well too. For the Rosaceae, there is an 18-couplet key to subfamilies and tribes; the keys for Picramniaceae, Staphyleaceae, and Crossosomataceae are simple and lead directly to genus or species. I collected three specimens on the walk to my office and had them keyed out and treatments fully read in short work—as the process is intended. It took nine couplets to arrive at *Chaenomeles speciosa*, 11 for *Duchesnea indica* var. *indica*, and 15 for *Rubus allegheniensis* (most likely a hybrid cultivar). The couplets

are easy to navigate and, in addition to vegetative information, contain details for flowering and fruiting stages aimed at those frustrating times when one or the other is unavailable. There is no glossary of botanical terminology, however, which may make it more difficult for the nonbotanist. The Introduction refers to the book *Categorical Glossary for the Flora of North America Project* and lists a website for its online access. The link given no longer appears to work, but I found the website by searching online for the title.

This is a hefty book, so it's no good as a field guide. However, the FNA, including this volume, is also published online (www.fna.org). This makes it a useful tool in the lab or classroom, but the complete 30-volume set would be a splendid addition to any botanist's (or anyone's!) library.

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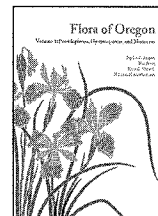
Flora of Oregon, Vol. 1: Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, and Monocots

Steven C. Meyers, Thea Jaster, Katie E. Mitchell, and Linda K. Hardison (editors)

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My first thought on opening this book was, “How do I preserve the beautiful dustcover?” My second thought was, “There should be some special recognition of Tanya Harvey, for layout and design of this elegant volume.” There is now a new standard of excellence for a state flora.

Cover 2 and its facing page are full-color illustrations of the eleven Oregon ecoregions: Cascades, Coast Range, Willamette Valley, etc. Cover 3 is the family index, and its facing page is an outline map of Oregon's counties, with the county seat of most counties indicated. The adopted family names mostly follow Angiosperm Phylogeny III.

The actual keys begin on page 65. That is to say, there are 64 pages of introduction, explanation of keys, and page after delightful page of Oregon's pioneer and contemporary botanists, including portraits and extensive biographical details. These pages also include extensive coverage of "Exploring Oregon's Botanical Diversity," replete with color photographs—these are national parks, national forest lands, etc. One of the sketches mentions *Luina serpentina* Cronquist, an Oregon endemic. I had never heard of this plant, so I turned to the index, to no avail. (Not surprisingly, it turns out it's in the *Asteraceae*, not covered in this volume.) As I subsequently discovered, nothing in these opening pages is included in the index to this volume. Alas, readers can only page through themselves, to discover these riches. (Sketches of the lives of the four editors are only included on the back flap of the dustcover.)

The arrangement of the accepted taxa is alphabetical throughout, with the running heads dictionary-like. This is yet another example of how much thought went into the book's design. All species are mapped; the maps include dots for actual specimens, plus shading to indicate their occurrence in Oregon's eleven ecoregions; furthermore, the names of the ecoregions (most abbreviated) are given at the end of each description, followed by the range outside of Oregon. A great many are illustrated with line drawings, which are far more useful than photographs. The descriptions are very ample. The authors of accepted

taxa are given without abbreviation, although the authors of synonyms are conventionally abbreviated. None of the Latin is explained or translated, and no references to type descriptions are given. English names are given; I forbear to call them common names, because most of them appear to be mere translations of the Latin. "Long-bearded mariposa-lily" is scarcely plausible as a name that can come trippingly on the tongue.

Just before the index, there are five appendices. One of the most interesting is the fifth one, "Native taxa not collected in the past 50 years." If I were an Oregonian, I would adopt this list as an action plan for plant collecting. Table 1 of Appendix 1 lists taxa excluded from full treatment because they are known from a single Oregon population, or because they are mere waifs. Table 2 of Appendix 1 lists well over 100 species that have been credited to Oregon, but which turn out to be unvouchered (for the most part) or with misidentified vouchers. I cannot recollect ever having seen such lists in a flora before. Their inclusion speaks to the care with which the editors and taxon authors have approached their material. The appendices include the entire flora, not just the taxa treated in Volume 1. However, only the scientific names relevant to Volume 1 that appear in Appendix 1 are included in the index for Volume 1, but without reference to their occurrence in Appendix 1 itself.

There are to be three volumes, comprising the dicots. I learned by e-mail that the publishing target dates for Volumes 2 and 3 are autumn of 2017 and (late) 2019, respectively. The Oregon Flora Project is off to a splendid start, and I feel sure the next two volumes will be eagerly awaited.

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