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BOOK REVIEWS

MICHIGAN TREES. Burton V. Barnes and Warren H. Wagner, Jr. The University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor. 384 pages, 120 figures. 1981. \$10.95 (cloth), \$5.95 (paper).

Nearly all entomologists studying terrestrial insects in the Lake States region find it necessary to recognize and attempt to understand the woody plant communities in which they live. My own great interest in trees was an obvious corollary of my work with forest insects and began with a copy of *Michigan Trees* by Charles Otis. Three decades have passed since I acquired it, and I have filled a shelf with additional "tree books" without finding one which was really satisfactory. Consequently I welcomed the publication of this completely new edition of *Michigan Trees* with heartfelt enthusiasm.

This edition has been entirely rewritten by two eminent botanists from The University of Michigan: Burton V. Barnes, forest ecologist of the School of Natural Resources, and Warren H. Wagner, Jr., already a familiar figure to Michigan Entomological Society members as one of our foremost lepidopterists, a Past President of the society, and frequent contributor to this journal.

The tree descriptions include virtually all the native and commonly introduced exotic species to be found in Michigan; 101 are illustrated. Most of these figures appeared in earlier editions, but many have been redrawn and numerous new figures added. The descriptions have been expanded to include a wealth of useful ecological information on distribution, habitat, shade tolerance, reproduction, and other characteristics. There are also helpful summaries of key characters, and background notes on a wide range of topics. A separate section provides similar but less extensive descriptions of most of the shrubs and woody vines of the region. There are keys for both summer and winter use, and perhaps the most important comment to be made on these is that my students had very little trouble using them successfully.

The authors make it relatively simple for the reader to identify a woody plant with considerable confidence, but their book offers much more. The initial chapter, which in similar tree books is usually confined to describing key characteristics, is here expanded to an interesting and concise introduction to the biology of woody plants. This is followed by a chapter on the habitats and forest communities of Michigan which is a veritable treasure for anyone interested in the terrestrial ecology of the state. This section alone would make the purchase of the volume worthwhile. A selection of references from the literature is another valuable feature rarely found in the usual tree book.

I have adopted this book as a standard reference for my biology students and a required text for my class in woody plants. It has been very successful in both applications, and the only student criticism has been regret that the section on shrubs and woody vines is not illustrated. It is, of course, a regional work, but certainly would be useful throughout the Lake States. For the Michigan naturalist it is invaluable.

D. C. L. Gosling

BUTTERFLIES OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATES. Edited by Clifford D. Ferris and F. Martin Brown. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 464 pages, incl. 4 color plates. 1981. \$35.00 (cloth), \$15.95 (paper).

The long awaited guide to the butterflies of the Rocky Mountains will be received with great delight by many lepidopterists who collect butterflies in this rugged and beautiful region. The book's coverage encompasses the Rocky Mountain states from the Canadian border to northern New Mexico, and from the Great Plains to the Great Basin. This comprehensive work will direct collectors to specific collecting sites and the photographs of each