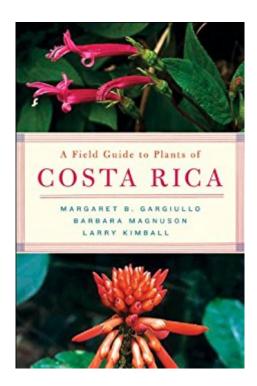
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A Field Guide To Plants Of Costa Rica





Synopsis

At the biological crossroads of the Americas, Costa Rica hosts one of the widest varieties of plants in the wold, with habitats ranging from tidal mangrove swamps, and lowland rainforests, to dry tropical evergreen and deciduous forests. Field Guide to Plants of Costa Rica is a must-have reference guide for beginner and expert naturalists alike. It provides a thorough survey of more than 850 plant species, each entry accompanied by color photos and a concise yet detailed narrative description. Plants are conveniently grouped by the different types of vegetation: palms, tall trees, shrubs, woody vines, herbaceous vines, herbs, grasses and ferns. Along with 1400 color photographs, the guide also includes an illustrated glossary of plant parts, five maps of Costa Rica, and laminated covers for durability in the field. With so much readily accessible information, this book is essential for exploring Costa Rica's common and conspicuous flora from the plants growing along the roadside to the best natural parks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This guide book has been written for "tourists, students and urban-dwelling Costa Ricans"

(according to the Preface). It is supurbly well-organized into sections that this audience can identify with. E. g. sections on tall trees, shrubs and small trees, two sections on vines, one on grasses, etc. The sections on trees are organized by color of the flowers, which greatly facilitates use of the book. I am one of the urban-dwelling Costa Ricans, but with a strong interest in re-forestation and rehabilitation of pastures and wet-lands in the Central Valley. While the book is not intended to be complete, it is very comprehensive and a most useful addition to any collection. A "must have" for anyone with an interest in the plants of costa Rica.

The book is organized in strange way, by flower color. I would have preferred it organized by families instead, for example all orchids listed in the same section together. Also it's not nearly comprehensive, many entries will state there are 5 species of this genus in Costa Rica and only give information about the most common one. And it's only of limited usefulness for identifying plants that aren't in bloom as many entries only have a picture of the flower but none of the leaves.

Either novice or professional, arguably one of the most comprehensive references to assist you in navigating your way through the endless tropical plant pallet of this beautiful country. As a landscape contractor, an excellent guide to assist me in educating my clients. Great photos help to convey each plants full potential.....Love it!! A definite "gotta have!"Rob PetersonUvita, Costa Rica

This book was small enough to carry in the field and was helpful. As other reviewers have noted, it is arranged by the color of prominent characteristics of the plants, and to a lesser degree plant types. If the flowers, fruits, etc. that were used as the prominent characteristic are not on the plant, identication would be difficult at best. The pictures are small and of limited detail, but given the size of the book and the number of plants covered, that is understandable.

The book provided identification of most of the flora but it was definitely too heavy to lug around in the field!

if you are interested in Costa Rica flora this may be the only field book you'll need. Good photos, scientific and popular names

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