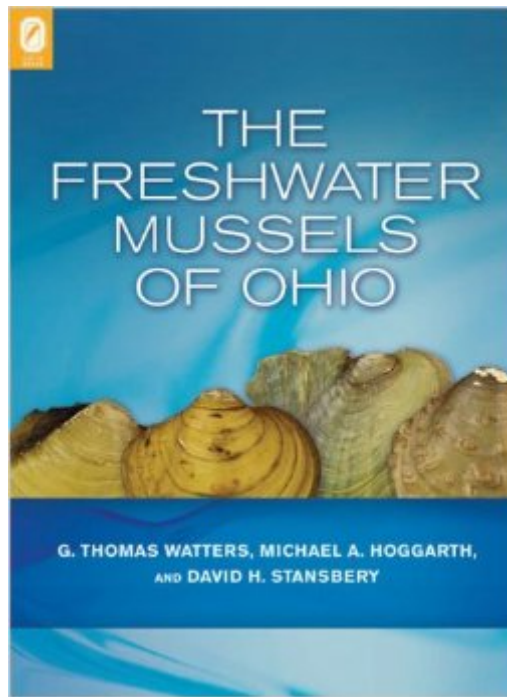


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The Freshwater Mussels Of Ohio



Synopsis

Nearly 200 years ago, a naturalist named Rafinesque stood on the banks of the Ohio River and began to describe the freshwater mussels he found there. Since that time these animals have become the most imperiled animals in North America. Dozens of species have become extinct, and it is estimated that two-thirds of the remaining freshwater mussels face a similar fate. Yet, despite their importance, the mussels of Ohio remain a poorly documented and largely mysterious fauna. The Freshwater Mussels of Ohio by G. Thomas Watters, Michael A. Hoggarth, and David H. Stansbery brings together, for the first time, the most up-to-date research on Ohio's mussels. Designed for the weekend naturalist and scientist alike, it synthesizes recent work on genetics, biology, and systematics into one book. Each species is illustrated to a degree not found in any other work. Full-page color plates depict shell variation, hinge detail, and beak sculpture. Full-page maps show the distribution of each species based upon the collections of numerous museums (with historical distributions dating from the 1800s). In addition to species accounts, the book has a substantive introduction that includes information on basic biology, human use, and conservation issues. Extensive synonymies, a key to all species, and an illustrated glossary are included as well.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a good guide to the mussels in the midwest region. I really like the quality of information. Due to the large amount of information, it can be a bit overwhelming at first but this is a

go to book on mussels

This book was fantastic for determining the various freshwater mussel species that can be found in Ohio!!! It might be the most inspirational work I've ever had the pleasure of reading. As a student of one of the authors, I can accurately say that the beautiful photos in this book were instrumental to my college career and to my soul. Truly a more noble creature has never graced this planet than the humble bivalve! And further, the great privilege of Ohio to have so much abundance in such an incredible animal. When I opened this book for the first time, it was like I was Buddha under the Bodhi tree. Never have I had such an epiphany in my life, then the moment that I first laid hands on this wondrous, glorious masterpiece of a book. "Book" is maybe too humble of a word for this beautiful collection that has changed my life so profoundly. Perhaps "Bible of Malacology" is a better title for this magnificent piece! No! A more apt term for this book might be "tour de force." The dictionary definition of tour de force is "an exceptional achievement by an artist, author, or the like, that is not likely to be equaled by that person, or anyone else; a stroke of genius." A more perfect description of this book could not be made by myself, or anyone else, and so, I will close with the heartfelt sentiment that everyone in possession of a pair of eyes, a brain, and a soul to immediately buy this book. You and your soul will not be disappointed!

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