



Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas (Princeton Paperbacks)

By Andrew Henderson, Gloria Galeano, Rodrigo Bernal

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This user-friendly and authoritative book will serve scientists, growers, and sightseers as a guide to the 67 genera and 550 species of naturally occurring palms found in the Americas. Its purpose is to give an introduction to the diversity of palms and allow almost anyone to identify a palm from this part of the world. Providing scientifically accurate descriptions and a rich supply of illustrations, including color photos taken in the wild of over 256 species, this guide is extraordinary in its coverage of the plant that has become for many people the symbol of the tropical landscape.

Palms are not only aesthetically pleasing, but they also make up an economically and ecologically important family of plants. In industry, for example, the coconut, oil palm, and date palm have a wide and varied use. In the lowland rain forest, palms are usually one of the most abundant and diverse families of plants. *Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas* will appeal to professional scientists or students working in the tropics-including agronomists, anthropologists, ecologists, entomologists, natural historians, and zoologists-as well as to amateur and professional growers of palms, to "eco-tourists" who visit tropical regions, and to inhabitants of these regions who are interested in the native flora.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Palms are an important plant family. Ornamentally, they symbolize a tropical landscape to most of us; economically, they provide important products to millions of people in both subsistence and modern commercial economies. Although both of these books provide a wealth of information on palms, they differ in coverage. *Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas* takes a botanical approach to help readers identify palms naturally occurring in the Americas. A brief introduction and a key to the genera are followed by descriptions of 67 individual species, including identification, characteristics, habitat, and interesting notes. A separate section of 64 color plates, a distribution map for each species, checklists, and a detailed bibliography and index are also offered. Species descriptions are written by taxonomists but are reasonably comprehensible and interesting to the amateur; unfortunately, there is no glossary to explain technical terms. *Palms Throughout the World*, an expansion of Jones's popular *Palms in Australia* (1984), takes a horticultural approach. Its descriptions of 800 species in 123 genera include cultivation and propagation information as well as descriptions, and its 350 color photographs are conveniently located next to the species they illustrate. The long introductory section includes information on the structure, biology, and economic uses of palms as well as their disease and cultivation requirements. A glossary is provided. Both works would be useful in academic horticultural libraries. *Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas* is the only comprehensive field guide for its area, although Natalie Uhl and John Dransfield's definitive *Genera Palmarum* (Allen Pr., 1987) provides more detailed botanical information. *Palms of the World* is a more attractive book and would have greater appeal to general readers. Marit MacArthur, Auraria Lib., Denver, Col.

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From Scientific American

The reason why this should become a standard reference, as well as a field guide, is that the species concepts are broad and allow for the considerable variation that palms exhibit in the field. Highly recommended.

From [The New Yorker](#)

This excellently produced guide is a model of its kind, not only in providing keys and description for field taxonomists, but also in containing a wealth of information on the ecology, distribution, and economic uses of this important group of tropical and subtropical plants.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Douglas Gibson:

The book entitled *Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas* (Princeton Paperbacks) contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy way. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was published by famous author. The author will bring you in the new period of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can keep reading your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site and order it. Have a nice go through.

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Richard Taylor:

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