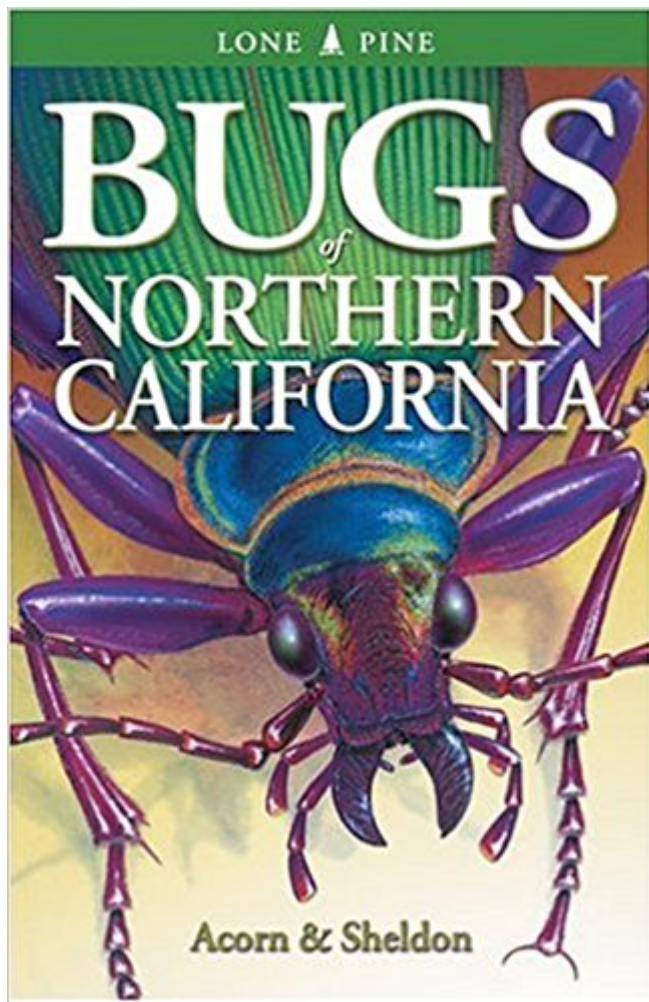


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Bugs Of Northern California



Synopsis

Television's Nature Nut, John Acorn, teams up with nature illustrator Ian Sheldon to craft a witty and personable book about the myriad insects and arachnids found throughout the diverse habitats of Northern California.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #294,529 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Butterflies #143 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Insects & Spiders #450 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders

Customer Reviews

Author John Acorn has written an entertaining text that brings each bug's character to life, while Ian Sheldon's detailed illustrations will help you become a visual expert on bugs. --Bay Nature magazine, San FranciscoOver 120 insects and arachnids are featured in this colorful and fascinating field guide. This is a must read for anyone curious about what that strange insect is, crawling up the wall of the carport at night or nibbling on the roots of its favorite deciduous tree! --Monterey County PostFor those who really want to know what is crawling around the garden, hiding under the house or nesting in the attic, this is a must read. --Mid County Post, Santa Cruz

JOHN ACORN is an impassioned and critically acclaimed science educator, well known among the general public as host of television's The Nature Nut, a science education program that has aired on Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, and numerous other networks around the world. He has authored many popular books on nature subjects, particularly on his favorite subjects of entomology and paleontology.

As noted by others and even by the author himself, it's not meant to be a scientific study of each of the thousands of bugs in Northern California. Rather, it's meant to satisfy a beginner's interest. For me, from time to time I see certain bugs and I wonder what they are and what they're doing... it's not a passion, but rather a curiosity that has been well satisfied by this book. If ever I want to know more, my next purchase would be a more comprehensive and scientific book. This book contains (I think) 125 of the bugs that one would be most likely to wonder about -- the ones that stand out or that are very plentiful in the area. I like the illustrations, rather than photographs. The illustrations are well-done and large and clear -- clearer than "in the wild" photographs and less disgusting than photographs of poor, dead, mounted creatures. I think one of the best parts of the book is the introduction. This is the main reason I would recommend this book to people who have an interest themselves or who have children interested in entomology. The author presents an easily understandable overview and he speaks with passion, knowledge and love for his topic! He briefly covers the biology and ecology, and he speaks frankly and kindly about human interaction with bugs, as observers, collectors, and as co-existing species. Throughout the book, the author makes small comments that pique interest for and admiration of these little critters! I'm still a little grossed out by bugs, but at least I have increased my respect from a safe distance!

Purchased for a friend's 5 year old who loves bugs. Him and his family enjoy the drawings and the blurbs about each bug. Yes, they are drawings- but the drawings are very precise and they have already caught and identified many bugs. Their son loves to learn from the book as they read to them and he loves to search through the pictures to identify his new catch. Excellent book and thorough enough for the budding entomologist.

My Kid spent half the summer checking every bug she could find. Never found one that wasn't here. Seems geared towards kids but pretty far above their level and needed lots of parental help.

This is a very knowledgeable book. Good information and well organized. Thanks, also, for the quick service. My students are making good use of the Insect information.

Gift - but I also have one and it helps to identify the BUGS!!

Excellent illustrations, my kids love it. Would like a bit more in-depth info, but then again, that might make the book a lot bigger...love it!

This book is far from comprehensive for this geographical area and has NO photos. It seems written by a high schooler and uses a lot of editorial comments to make up for lack of facts. I think we used to call it padding. I was hoping for a Peterson-type guide. I returned the book. Nice cover.

I just got this guide last month. It has bright attractive illustrations and was an immediate hit with my kids and me. We didn't know much to start with, but this guide has a picture index in the front that makes it easy to find the mystery bug. For us, it helps that we don't need to know taxonomy. Because it is region specific, we don't have to waste a lot of time wading through all the bugs we're unlikely to see anyway--I assume this is something like the "top 100" of local bugs, so just about everything I see in the book looks familiar. I also like that the book provides a little narrative about each bug, not just its name, so we feel like we're really learning something. I suspect it's not big enough for all the bugs we'll come across, but so far it is serving us well by wetting our appetite.

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