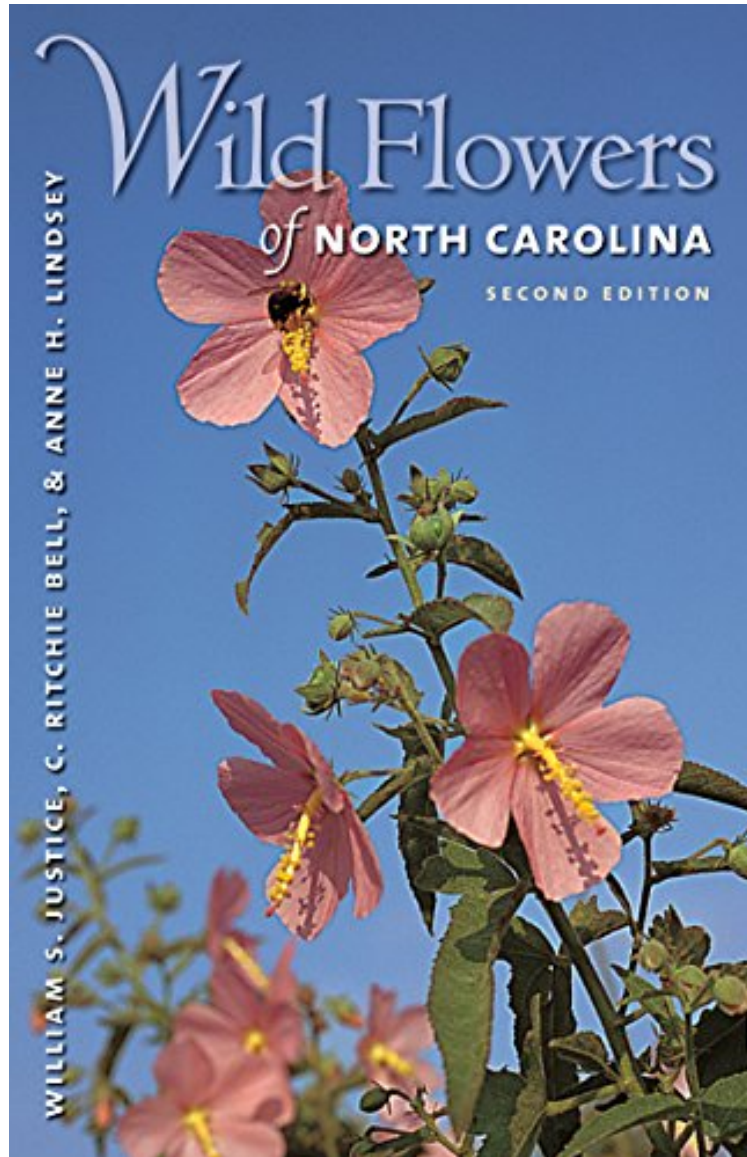


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Wild Flowers of North Carolina

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William S. Justice, C. Ritchie Bell, Anne H. Lindsey : Wild Flowers of North Carolina before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wild Flowers of North Carolina:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Nice as a reference book, not so useful as a field guideBy A. RoseThis is a "classic botanical handbook" published by The University of North Carolina Press presenting 500 native or naturalized plants of the almost 3000 flowering plants reported to grow in North Carolina in The Manual of the

Vascular Flora of the Carolinas by Radford et al. Besides the plant descriptions supplemented with photographs, it contains cross references to the Manual that might come in handy for botany students and professionals with access to that 1200+ page tome, horticultural information useful for native gardens, and an index with both common and scientific names to look up plant species. However, it is not organized as a field guide and I doubt the authors intended it to be used that way. This is primarily a reference book. There is a lot of information in this book, including the status of plants (rare, endangered etc), medicinal and poisonous plants, light and moisture requirements, whether plants are suitable/available for cultivation etc. However, much of this info is coded in letters, numbers and symbols on the plant descriptions and requires some effort to decode. The key character codes are provided on two pages in the front and back of the book with line drawings to illustrate and a 10 cm ruler that might come in handy to measure plant parts. The other codes and symbols used are explained on pages xxii and xxiii of the introduction. Thus, looking up the codes on a plant description requires flipping back and forth between several places in the book, which is rather inconvenient. I wished all the codes were presented on one page. You can make accessing this information much easier for you by copying/scanning the code explanations onto one page and printing it out as a bookmark that you can have side-by-side with the plant description you are reading. The order of the plant descriptions seems to follow taxonomic groupings in the same order as the Manual and plant family members are listed together. There are no dichotomous keys or groupings of photos by characteristics (e.g. flower color) that would allow easy identification of plants. Thus, this book is not really suited as a field guide - certainly not for the lay person with little background knowledge in botany and plant taxonomy. The pictures are smallish (smaller than credit card size) but generally good quality representations of the plants showing flowers and foliage, often also fruits and berries. In summary, this is a very useful reference book for the hobby botanist and native gardener. If you are willing to put in the work in decoding the information, there is a lot to be extracted from this book. It is not, however, easily used as a field guide. If you have little background knowledge and are looking for a simple "what plant is that" type book to take on a hike, there are other books better suited for that.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must have for native plant hobbyists
By Helen H. This second edition is very thorough and informative, including both medicinal lore as well as current environmental cautions. Clear photographs appropriately illustrate each entry. While the second edition is organized differently than the first and takes some getting used to by botanical novices such as myself, I believe that's a small inconvenience. Overall, an excellent resource for the home library.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good reference book
By John Edward Elsegood Bought this for my wife. We live in the Mountains of North Carolina and have so many wild flowers on our property. Within a few minutes of the book arriving she was in the back yard identifying different plants. Good illustrative book. Good value.

This classic botanical handbook, originally compiled by the late William S. Justice and C. Ritchie Bell, pairs hundreds of color photographs with descriptions of the wild flowers and flowering trees, shrubs, vines, herbs, and weeds found in North Carolina and many other eastern states, from Delaware to Georgia. Entries include information on habitat, range, size, months of bloom, and features for identification. For this new edition, Bell and Anne H. Lindsey have included 100 additional species and expanded the information in previous entries to address developments in the field of plant conservation, providing comments on endangered and protected species, medicinal uses, the cultivation of species in a wild garden, and the commercial availability of nursery-grown natives.

An excellent and extensive guide for amateurs, students, and teachers, who will find it a pleasure to read.--Choice
A model for any state field guide.--New Yorker
A botanical bonanza.--Our State
If you have ever leaned down to look at a wildflower and wanted to know more about it, this is your handbook, your gentle and quite specifically knowledgeable guide. Or if you just want to feast your eyes, this is your book. Marvelous, marvelous photographs. Buy two. . . . You'll wear out both.--Pilot
It's great to see this old friend of a book out in a fresh, expanded edition, because the copy I have is getting ragged. . . . Along with this spiffy new book comes information about 100 additional species of wildflowers . . . and lots of charts that help tell the story of our amazing palette of wild flowers.--Charlotte Observer
An invaluable source of information. . . . Deserves space on the bookshelves of all naturalist and plant lovers.--Southern Pines Pilot
A one-word description of the photographs would be 'gorgeous.'--Nashville Banner
From the Inside Flap
This popular field guide contains full-color photographs of wildflowers, trees, shrubs, vines, herbs, and weeds; it also describes habitat, range, size, months of bloom, and features. Covers the Carolinas, Virginia, and parts of Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware. The new edition includes 100 additional species and addresses new developments in the field.
About the Author
The late William S. Justice, a well-known photographer and field botanist, practiced medicine in Asheville, North Carolina. C. Ritchie Bell, professor emeritus of botany at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and founder of the North Carolina Botanical Garden, is coauthor of Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas and Florida Wild Flowers and Roadside Plants. Anne H. Lindsey and her husband C. Ritchie Bell, are owners of Laurel Hill Press, which produces natural history guides, videos, and DVDs.