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REVIEW

FERNS AND FERN ALLIES OF THE DRIFTLESS AREA OF ILLINOIS, IOWA, MINNESOTA AND WISCONSIN, by James H. Peck. Milwaukee Public Museum Contributions in Biology and Geology 53:1-140. 1982. \$13.50 postpaid.

—The driftless area, a pocket in the upper midwestern landscape which escaped at least the more recent glaciations, holds, by virtue of its topography and age of its habitats, a diverse and interesting array of plants. It has been the subject of botanical study for many years. The present account is by far the most complete and useful of any we have had for the pteridophytes, which number 73 species, 13 hybrids, and 6 infraspecific taxa. Peck's treatment includes a useful introduction, a discussion of the affinities of the flora with special reference to the interesting disjunct *Thelypteris simulata*, a systematic list with synonyms, statement of habitat, and specimen citations, a key to the genera and species of pteridophytes found in the driftless area, and a large and useful section of literature cited. Ninety pages are devoted to full-page county distribution maps for the driftless area ferns that include all of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri. The maps not only place the ferns of the driftless area in the context of the surrounding region, but they are sure to stimulate searches for pteridophytes in counties where the first records are yet to be obtained.—D.B.L.



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