

thumbnail descriptions of a single species but more often of several that grow under similar conditions in the Pacific Northwest. Magnifications are included for each plate.

No keys are provided, for as the author says, "we find that very few amateurs use them." It is his hope "that the reader will scan the pictures repeatedly testing his recall of each name. By this means he will become familiar with the general appearance of the plants in each genus, and acquire a set of mental images to which he can relate each plant in the field." Whether this approach will be helpful and practical is doubtful. The plates are excellent in detail although they are darker and the color rendering is not as good as in the *Wild Flowers of British Columbia*. Professor Clark was an expert and artistic photographer. The plates alone would fully justify the adding of these, and subsequent guide books of this series, to the library of anyone, professional or amateur, interested in the flora of the Pacific Northwest.

The departure from the more usual grouping of species by color, in guide books intended primarily for the layman, is very deliberate on

the part of the author. He believes that an arrangement of species according to their usual habitats is more practical (and even more useful) than that of grouping plants, from every habitat, by the color of their flowers. He points out that this latter grouping is, in fact, only possible in a single-volume work. Furthermore a number of species have flowers of more than one color. While there is undoubted logic to this plan I am not persuaded of its practicality. Looking at more than 100 plates in search of an unknown may prove to be a frustrating experience, although mitigated by the pleasure of looking at the plates themselves.

The books are well printed with few typographical errors. Being paperbacks of small size (14 × 21 cm) they are admirable for taking into the field. At their price they are good value for the money.

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Géographie floristique du Québec/Labrador. Distribution des principales espèces vasculaires

By Camille Rousseau. 1974. Travaux et documents du Centre d'Etudes Nordiques 7. Les Presses de l'Université Laval, Québec. 799 pp., 1021 maps. \$30.

This will be an invaluable book for students of the flora of the Quebec/Labrador and adjacent regions, and indeed anyone interested in the flora of the northern half of North America, for many years to come.

For each of 1016 species of the indigenous flora of Quebec/Labrador, the author presents, in a short paragraph, the habitat, distribution, and comments made by various authors on the distribution in Quebec/Labrador and North America in general.

Maps depicting the distribution of these species in Quebec/Labrador are presented in a section at the end of the book. These unfortunately are on three different base maps, depending on the ranges of the various taxa, and are grouped in three sequences, each in taxonomic order. Thus if the reader is interested only in the map for one species, he must search three places or refer to the text to ascertain which sequence to consult. Indeed the reader is forced to consult the text because the maps are identified by number, the initial letter of the genus and the species name. It would have been much better if the generic

name had been completely spelled out, only one base map used, and thus only one sequence required. References to other published distribution maps are given in the text.

A chapter is devoted to the comparison of the distributions of the 1016 species. This in part is similar to Marcel Raymond's *Esquisse phytogéographique du Québec*, published in 1950. In another chapter the various hypotheses and theories concerning phytodistribution in Quebec/Labrador are discussed.

The extensive bibliography which is referred to throughout the text contains many titles dealing not only with the flora of Quebec, but Canada as a whole. It is thus a most useful source of information.

The text is offset from typescript and is written in French. Camille Rousseau has done a meticulous job in searching for and gathering together the information presented, and can be justly proud of his accomplishment.

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