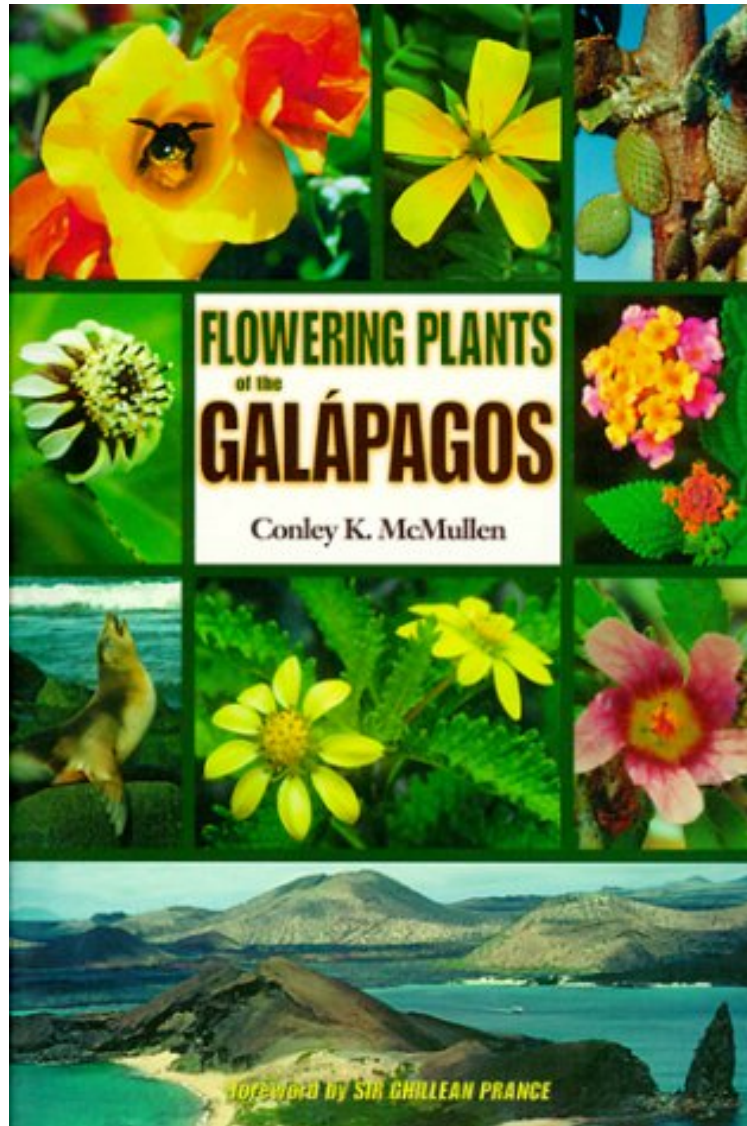


Flowering Plants of the Galapagos

Conley K. McMullen

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Conley K. McMullen : Flowering Plants of the Galapagos before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Flowering Plants of the Galapagos:

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The Galpagos are home to a wide-ranging assortment of unusual plants and animals. The islands became famous as the site of Charles Darwin's research leading to his theory of evolution by natural selection, and their magnificent flora and fauna continue to draw visitors from around the world. Based on the author's sixteen years of fieldwork and featuring his exceptional photography, *Flowering Plants of the Galpagos* is the first accessible, in-depth yet compact guide to the plant life of the area. An invaluable resource for tourists, natural history enthusiasts, and professionals, the book: * introduces the botanical history of the islands and their varied ecological zones * allows easy identification of 436 flowering plants (77 families, 192 genera, and 390 species) * covers endemic plants found exclusively on the islands; native plants, which grow on the Galpagos and elsewhere; and exotic plants present as a result of human actions * offers thorough accounts of the plants which give the scientific, common, and family names; range; islands inhabited; habitat; description; and additional notes of interest * is richly illustrated with 266 color photographs of flowering plants and 117 of plant pollinators, vegetation zones, non-flowering plants, and the islands themselves * organizes species by form, leaf arrangement, and flower color and includes descriptive plant drawings to aid in identification * provides a map of the Galpagos and a list of plants likely to be seen at popular tourist sites

"Darwin visited the Galapagos in 1835, collected plants, and later wrote about the finches. This attractive guide by McMullen will introduce many of the plants Darwin saw (and collected), and it is certain to become an indispensable companion for anyone fortunate enough to visit these islands. . . . Surprisingly, many introduced and cultivated plants well known throughout the tropics are also featured in this guide, their showy flowers likely to attract the novice botanist. . . . Brief essays on the history of botanical exploration, vegetation types, and conservation will entertain readers cruising from island to island, or dreaming of visiting this land of giant tortoises." *Choice*, June 2000. "The format and aids provided will enable less knowledgeable readers to use it and identify plants. It should be of interest to anyone who has visited the Galapagos Islands or plans to in the future or just wants to learn more about the unique and threatened flora." Eileen K. Schofield, *Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society* "McMullen's book is a user-friendly guide to the flowering plants of the Galapagos Islands written for the average visitor with a general interest in botany. . . . This is an excellent book that definitely fills a need. It is a field guide to be recommended to every Galapagos visitor with an interest in plant life." Uno Eliasson, *Nordic Journal of Botany*, 2000 "This book is destined to be a valuable resource for the amateur naturalists who have made the Galpagos their destination of choice." Carol L. Noll, *Libraries Unlimited* "The field guide should meet the needs of both of its intended audiences. . . . Large public and academic libraries will find this guide a valuable addition to their collections wherever there is interest in tropical biology or travel." Diane C. Schmidt, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Biology Library. E-Streams*, Vol. 3, No. 7, Sept. 2000. "This is a well-organized, small, but information-packed book. . . . It is, however, a valuable reference book for travelers to the Islands." *HortScience*, Vol. 35(5), August 2000 "Combining important basic information about the flora of the islands with thorough plant descriptions and high-quality photographs, this well-written book fills a definite need." Ole Jorgen Hamann, Director, Botanic Garden, University of Copenhagen "This well-organized book is comprehensive and easy to use. The introduction to the natural history of the islands and to their ecological zones are excellent, as are the keys and plant descriptions." Margaret D. Lowman, Director of Research and Conservation, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens "Flowering Plants of the Galpagos provides short descriptions, an easy-to-use key, numerous natural history observations, and many hypotheses about how and from where the species arrived to the area. Conley K. McMullen gives amateur botanists, travelers, tourists, and anybody else with an interest in natural history a good introduction to the plants and botany on the Galpagos Islands." Peter H. Raven, Director, Missouri Botanical Garden "Visitors to the Galpagos islands will find this to be an invaluable guide to the flora. Technical language has been reduced to a minimum in order to make it possible for amateurs to identify the most common plants they are likely to encounter." Peter R. Grant, Princeton University