

A SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON USES OF PLANTS BY NATIVE PEOPLE

Quick References (Plants by Genus)

Cheatham, Scooter, Marshall Corning Johnston and Lynn Marshall

1995-onwards *Useful Wild Plants of Texas, the Southeastern and Southwestern United States, the Southern Plains, and Northeastern Mexico*. Useful Wild Plants, Inc., Austin. [Four volumes published with more to come. High quality scholarship at about \$120 per volume.]

Kindscher, Kelly

1987 *Edible Wild Plants of the Prairie: An Ethnobotanical Guide*. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Hodgson, Wendy C.

2001 *Food Plants of the Sonoran Desert*. The University Press of Arizona, Tucson. [Detailed information and good references on which tribes used which species and how. Restricted geographically to California, Arizona, and adjacent parts of Mexico.]

King, Frances B.

1984 *Plants, People and Paleoecology: Biotic Communities and Aboriginal Plant Usage in Illinois*. Illinois State Museum Scientific Papers, Vol. XX. Illinois State Museum, Springfield, Illinois. [Obscure but useful for the eastern U.S. Definitely pick up a copy if you find one at a used book store.]

**Moerman, Daniel E.

1988 *Native American Ethnobotany*. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press. (Now available as an online database: <http://naeb.brit.org>. The database originated as a compilation of medicinal plants of the Iroquois Confederacy, and medicinal uses often predominate in the listings.)

Tozer, Frank

2007 *The Uses of Wild Plants: Using and growing the wild plants of the United States and Canada*. Green Man Publishing, Santa Cruz. [Includes many Eurasian uses. Not well-referenced but seems ok.]

**Tull, Delena

2013 *Edible and Useful Plants of Texas and the Southwest*. Revised edition. University of Texas Press, Austin. [One of the few that discusses dye plants in depth. Includes recipes for teas, jellies, and dye baths.]

Texas Plants

**Turner, Matt Warnock

- 2009 *Remarkable Plants of Texas: Uncommon Accounts of Our Common Natives*. University of Texas Press, Austin. [Short articles on select Texas native plants, thoroughly researched and beautifully written.]

Medicinal/Spiritual/Tonic Plants

Kindscher, Kelly

- 1992 *Medicinal Wild Plants of the Prairie: An Ethnobotanical Guide*. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Ott, Jonathan

- 1976 *Hallucinogenic Plants of North America*. Wingbow Press, Berkeley, California.

Vogel, Virgil J.

- 1970 *American Indian Medicine*. Paperback edition, with 1990 preface by the author. The Civilization of the American Indian Volume 195. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

A Few of Many Regional Sources on Native American Plant Use

Anderson, M. Kat

- 2006 *Tending the Wild: Native American Knowledge and the Management of California's Natural Resources*. New edition. University of California Press, Berkeley. [Influential treatment of Native plant use in the context of more general practices of ecosystem/landscape management.]

Campbell, Paul Douglas

- 2009 *Survival Skills of Native California*. Gibbs Smith, Publisher, Salt Lake City. [Fire, food, shelter, clothing, cooking, gathering, and hunting.]

Densmore, Frances

- 1974 *How Indians use wild plants for food, medicine, and crafts*. Dover. [Chippwa/Ojibwe/Anishinaabe in Minnesota and Wisconsin]

Dunmire, William W. and Gail D. Tierney

- 1997 *Wild Plants and Native Peoples of the Four Corners*. Museum of New Mexico Press, Santa Fe. [Photos and notes on individual plants with emphasis on archeological finds and historic uses. Also includes a historic overview, chapters on modern tribes, and suggestions about sites to visit.]

Gilmore, Melvin R.

- 1991 *Uses of Plants by the Indians of the Missouri River Region*. Originally published 1919 as Thirty-third Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology, Washington, D.C. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln and London. [An oldie but a goodie.]

Hamilton, T. M.

- 1982 *Native American Bows*. Second edition. Special Publications No. 5. Missouri Archaeological Society, Columbia, Missouri.

Murphey, Edith Van Allen

- 1990 *Indian Uses of Native Plants*. Meyerbooks, Glenwood, Illinois. Originally published 1958. [Rocky Mountains and Mendocino County, California.]

Ortiz, Beverly R. and Julia F. Parker

- 1991 *It Will Live Forever: Traditional Yosemite Indian Acorn Preparation*. Heyday Books, Berkeley. [A modern classic on acorn processing.]

Raine, Carolyn

- 1997 *A Woodland Feast: Native American Foodways of the 17th & 18th Centuries*. Penobscot Press, Huber Heights, Ohio. [By a Seneca woman who's a historian, artist, re-enactor, and cook. With lots of recipes.]

Stevenson, Matilda Coxe

- 1993 *The Zuñi Indians and their Uses of Plants*. Dover Books, New York. Originally published 1915

**Wilson, Gilbert L.

- 1987 *Buffalo Bird Woman's Garden: Agriculture of the Hidatsa Indians*. Minnesota Historical Society Press, St. Paul. Originally published 1917. Available online at: <https://muse.jhu.edu/books/9780873516600> [One of the most detailed accounts of Native agricultural practices. A classic.]

General Compilations (includes uses by European settlers and modern Americans)

Allen, Charles, Harry Winter, and Andrew Allen

- 2005 *Edible Plants of the Gulf South*. Allen's Native Ventures, Pitkin, Louisiana.

Gibbons, Euell

- 2005 *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*. Allen C. Hood and Company, Inc. Originally published 1962. [The granddaddy of the modern wild edibles movement. Born in Clarksville, Texas.]

McPherson, Alan and Sue McPherson

1977 *Wild Plant Foods of Indiana and Adjacent States*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Indiana.

Medsger, Oliver Perry

1966 *Edible Wild Plants*. The Macmillan Company, New York.

Saunders, Charles Francis

1976 *Edible and Useful Wild Plants of the United States and Canada*. Dover, New York.

Tilford, Gregory L.

1997 *Edible and Medicinal Plants of the West*. Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana.

Fiber plants

Horton, Elizabeth Temple

2010 *The Ties That Bind: Fabric Traditions and Fiber Use in the Ozark Plateau*. Unpublished Ph. D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, Washington University, St. Louis.

McGregor, Roberta

1992 *Prehistoric Basketry of the Lower Pecos, Texas*. Monographs in World Archaeology. Prehistory Press, Madison, Wisconsin.

Scholtz, Sandra Clements

1975 *Prehistoric Plies: A Structural and Comparative Analysis of Cordage, Netting, Basketry, and Fabric from Ozark Bluff Shelters*, Research Series No. 9. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Cookbook

Cox, Beverly and Martin Jacobs

1991 *Spirit of the Harvest: North American Indian Cooking*. Stewart, Tabori and Chang, New York. [James Beard Award winner and early example of New Native American cuisine. Some proceeds go to the Museum of the American Indian.]

And one historic oddball I've enjoyed

Phillips, H. Wayne

2003 *Plants of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*. Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, Montana.