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The Ferns of Florida: A Reference and Field Guide (Reference and Field Guides)

Gil Nelson

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Gil Nelson : The Ferns of Florida: A Reference and Field Guide (Reference and Field Guides) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ferns of Florida: A Reference and Field Guide (Reference and Field Guides):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. It would be hard to top this field guide/reference for fernsBy P. NorrisGreat field guide/reference for any naturalist or serious gardener. This book is primarily organized for use as a field guide, but has great value for landscaping/gardening as well. Ferns are notoriously difficult to identify in the field....unless you have this book! Mr Nelson's use of botanical keys is what makes it possible to confidently identify a particular specimen. The initial key toward the beginning of the book will direct you to a particular family or genus. At the family level you'll find another key that will help you to determine the genera, and from there the species descriptions, pictures, drawings, etc will help you to identify the particular species in question. (Some genera include very few species, in these cases, no keys are given). Even for those not accustomed to using botanical keys, mastering the use of these keys comes fairly easily with a little help from the fairly brief glossary. The color plates are of high quality and many of the pictures clearly show the arrangement of sori on the fertile fronds.In addition to keys and species descriptions, this book contains a history of fern study in Florida, information about fern conservation, including detailed information in table form about the federal and state status of each species, information about fern gardening, information about fern classification, nomenclature, morphology, life cycle of ferns, and a glossary of terms.I highly recommend this book for any naturalist and/or fern lover, or anyone who needs to be able to identify ferns.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Dani Jungmann

This is the first field guide in 25 years to treat Florida's amazing variety of ferns. Color plates feature more than 200 images, some of which include rare species never before illustrated in color. Includes notes on each species' growth form and habit, as well as general remarks about its botanical and common names, unique characteristics, garden use, and history in Florida. All professional or amateur botanists, plant lovers, and gardeners will want this important book in their libraries.