

their "Common Features", their "Uses and Culture", propagation information, and details on multiple taxa in the group. The consistent format makes each chapter easy to browse for information and the accompanying photographs of selected plants make that browsing a visual treat.

It is abundantly clear that Smith is enamored of his plants! The poetry and enthusiasm of his description of the seasonal aspects of oaks is usually reserved for showier groups like roses and orchids. Not only does he seduce the readers into the need for an oak in their yards, the author also provides them with a wealth of information about siting and mycorrhizae to ensure the survival of that majestic genus. He spends pages expounding on the wild lilacs (*Ceanothus*) despite the fact that only a few of them have achieved true popularity in the nursery trade. He warns of their "wandering tendencies and certain cultural quirks" while extolling the ease with which they blend with other plants in the garden. In "Two Genera", Smith confesses to his ongoing love affair with the genus *Salvia* and his "long friendship" with the buckwheats. And, happily, in "Small Matters", Smith addresses the challenges and rewards of growing some of those annual species that have made their way into the seed trade – California poppies, *Phacelia*, *Nemophila*, and Lupines, among others.

Smith finishes up with a Resources section that clearly underlines his commitment to education about natives. In addition to other horticultural books on California's natives, Smith includes a listing of appropriate floras, journals, and places to visit to see these plants in action. Also, as one would anticipate, he includes numerous internet sources for seeds, plants, and native plant organizations.

The introductory materials of the book served as a wonderful reminder as to why anyone anywhere gardens with native plants – to create a sense of place for both the human and non-human inhabitants, to celebrate the treasure that is the local flora and the fauna that it draws, and to meet basic environmental needs – erosion control, privacy, shade – using a palette of native species. As a horticulturist, I appreciated Smith's collection of his "Favorite Things" to remind me how many plants in the horticultural trade originate on this continent and how different the floras of the two coasts are. Smith's book serves as an educational tool for those non-Californians among us and as an inspiring resource for those challenged with gardening in the Golden State.

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Natural Enemies – an introduction to biological control. Hajek Ann, 2004. ISBN 0-521-65385-1 (Paper US\$50.00) 378 pp. Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th St, New York, NY 10011-4211.

This book includes every kind of natural enemy used to control insects and plants that are problems for human beings. Ann Hajek first makes the case for biological control, as an environmentally sound alternative to chemical control (to which most organisms evolve resistance). She takes us through a brief history of the development of biological control, including the standard experimental protocols used in the different lines of research. She first reviews successes in classical biological control, then presents two newer forms of control jointly termed augmentation (inundative and inoculative biological control) and discusses how products are made available for commercial use. My interests in tritrophic interactions led me to appreciate her chapter on conservation and enhancement of natural enemies, especially her general review of methods of enhancement of insect carnivore populations, providing a basis for more detailed compendia (e.g., Wackers, Van Rijn, and Bruin 2005).

Hajek uses many examples and includes many suggestions for further reading after each chapter. The book is richly illustrated with very nice drawings and figures from a variety of talented artists. Fascinating and horrific parasitoids, strange nematodes, and virus-stricken caterpillars are all brought to life (or maybe I should say, death!) in pictures as well as in Hajek's descriptions of the natural history and science of these interactions.

I expect that this book could be well utilized in a course on the topic of Biological Control in a department of Entomology or Agriculture, but also it can help any botanist or ecologist understand this complex topic with ease. My students and I have learned a lot to help us in our own studies of biotic plant defense, especially when we encounter an unexpected twist in an interaction we are studying. I recommend this very fine compendium to anyone interested in species interactions, community ecology, invasion biology, or conservation biology

-Suzanne Koptur, Professor of Biological Sciences, Florida International University.

Deuteronomy 11:15

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