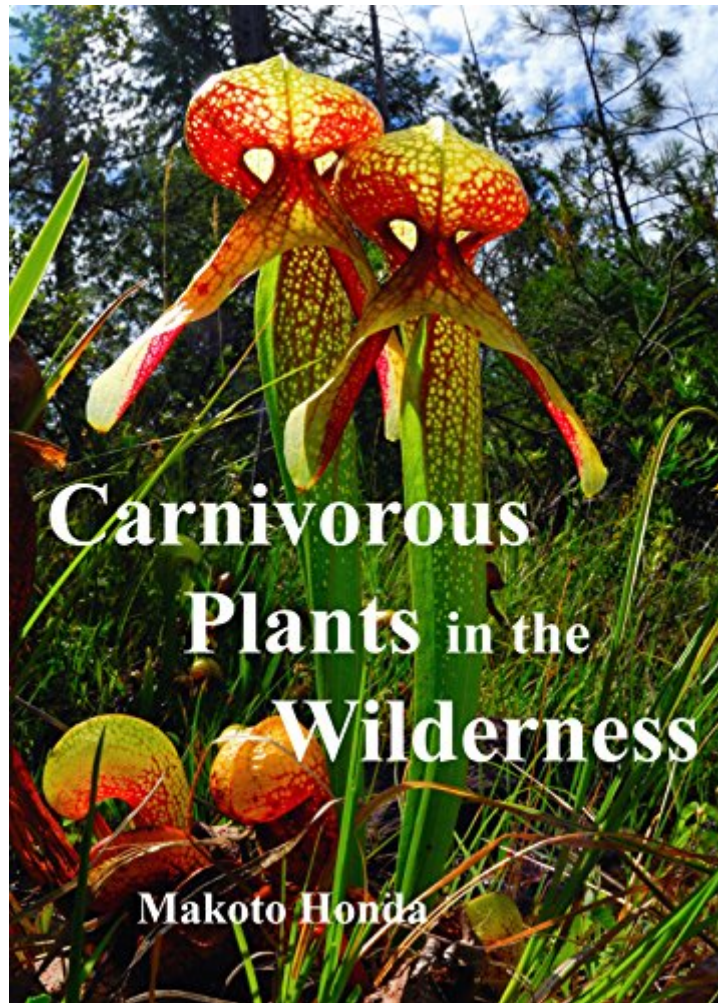




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Carnivorous Plants In The Wilderness



Synopsis

This is a book on the ecology of carnivorous plants, their lifestyle and surroundings. Through millions of years of evolution, carnivorous plants have acquired special adaptations that may appear quite bizarre and eccentric in the seemingly docile world of the plant kingdom. The idea that some plants eat animals sounds so strange that there was strong hesitation on the part of eighteenth-century botanists to accept such a notion. It is a deviation from our familiar concept of the food chain. Plants are eaten by herbivores and herbivores, in turn, are eaten by carnivores. Carnivorous plants have reversed this normal hierarchy that exists within the ecosystem. Charles Darwin was one of the first to demonstrate, with convincing evidence, that some plants had indeed been adapted to the carnivorous habit. Modern science has confirmed that the nutrients obtained from captured prey are absorbed through the trap leaf and are carried to the growth points, suggesting that the plants do derive benefits. The main requirements for the healthy growth of plants are sunlight, carbon dioxide, water, and some inorganic nutrients. A deficiency in any of these basic requirements creates a hostile environment for the plants. In any adverse situations, the plant must adapt to survive. Over millions of years, the plants' struggles for survival have created a staggering array of properties found in the richness of the plant kingdom of our planet today. There are places in the world where the soil is poor and plants cannot obtain enough nutrients through the root to sustain their growth. This particular environmental stress has given rise to a syndrome quite eccentric in view of the normal plant lifestyle. It is in such mineral-deficient environments found in some regions of the globe that the plants that have adopted carnivory can be found. These flesh-devouring plants have collectively come to be known as "insectivorous" or "carnivorous" plants on the basis of their common ecology. In terms of their botanical classification, carnivorous plants encompass many different taxonomic families and genera. The Introduction of this book describes carnivorous plants in the world, covering various trapping methods deployed by carnivorous plants, their elegant flowers, a dilemma associated with pollinators, ecology, classification, and evolution. The six chapters that follow describe all the genera of carnivorous plants occurring in North America - Pitcher Plants (*Sarracenia*), Cobra Plant (*Darlingtonia*), Sundews (*Drosera*), Venus Flytrap (*Dionaea*), Butterworts (*Pinguicula*), and Bladderworts (*Utricularia*). Each chapter describes in detail a specific trapping mechanism of the genus. Through vivid imagery of nature photography, the reader is invited into the wilderness of North America to witness a variety of mysterious carnivorous plant lifestyles in their natural habitats. Join me in this exciting carnivorous plants journey! Visit : www.iCarnivorousPlants.com. Email: mhondax@gmail.com.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great Book. Buy Color Edition

Loved it.

I really enjoyed Mr. Honda's book. I have been growing CPs for 15+ years, and own several books on the subject, and this volume is like a breath of fresh air. Although not a book on cultivation of these plants (of which there are already many), it offers a vivid peek into the natural habitats and life cycles of the different species. Beautiful close up & panoramic photographs will spark a fire in the heart in even the most jaded CPer, and the text is very well written...ranging from purely scientific to beautifully poetic. Very well done, I highly recommend it!

More of a documentation of them in the wild. The photos are wonderful in color, so I would invest in the color version instead of the black and white. These books too often go out of print quickly and are only available on the secondary market.

I really liked the pictures very much. The text was nice but I did not read very much which was new for me.

I bought the "Black & White Photography Edition" and returned it to right away. The photographs are of shockingly poor quality, it seems they have been converted from the (digital) colour images of the normal edition without any care. They look pixelated and are very low in contrast so some of them have lost the details almost completely. Although this edition is very cheap in comparison I would not recommend it. By the way: "Carnivorous Plants" from Adrian Slack and Jane Gate shows how brilliant black & white photographs look like (however, these have been taken as such and not been converted from other sources).

this book was an amazing read, Five stars! I would recommend new readers look at it to learn how to raise these plants

AWESOME!

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