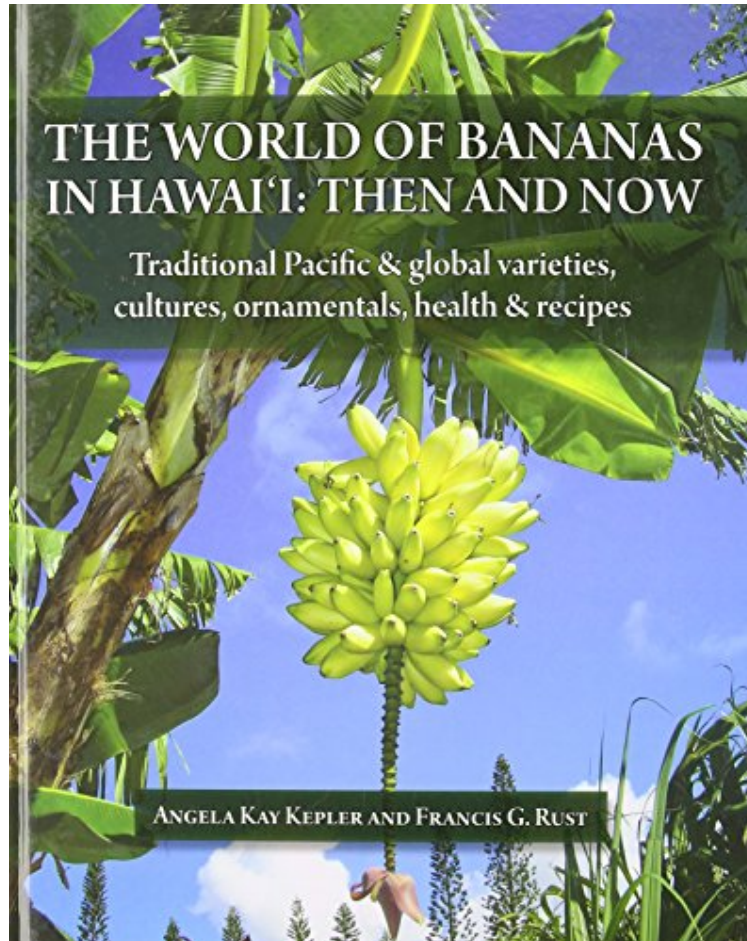


The World of Bananas in Hawaii: Then and Now

Angela Kay Kepler, Francis G. Rust
ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



#1573720 in Books 2011-11-30 2011-11-30 Original language: English 11.50 x 9.50 x 1.50l, 5.75 #File Name: 0983726604612 pages | File size: 54.Mb

Angela Kay Kepler, Francis G. Rust : The World of Bananas in Hawaii: Then and Now before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The World of Bananas in Hawaii: Then and Now*:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Erudite and entertaining, it sets a standard for ethnobotany. By J. Carothers I love this book! Although it is encyclopedic in its depth and breadth, the prose makes it accessible and of interest to the casual reader while giving a botanist a plethora of valuable information. Thus, it is a scientific reference text, an engaging coffee table book, and a compendium of how-to tips for banana growers all at the same time. Anyone wanting to learn about Hawaiian history will discover many intimacies about Hawaiian culture, as the authors have dug deep into Hawaiian lore to rediscover the vital role that bananas have played in allowing Polynesians to successfully colonize these islands. Those who are interested in banana cultivation and diversity will find more useful information than one could hope for. It weaves together nearly 2000 beautiful color photos and drawings with keen-eyed flower descriptions, vignettes of Hawaiian legends involving bananas, connections to bananas throughout

Polynesia and beyond, and practical advice on how to grow most every banana variety found in Hawaii (and deal with possible pests and diseases). Indeed, the descriptions contained within the book make us mainlanders envy the people of Hawaii who have so many delicious varieties for their table while we are stuck with the standard Central American "Cavendish" variety chosen for its shipping characteristics and not its flavor. The authors have done more than just their homework here, they have probed many remote locations and forgotten valleys and sought out the wisdom of the world's leading banana researchers along with that of old-time Hawaiian farmers to create a book that likely will never be rivaled in its contribution to its subject. Bravo! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Awesome book for banana growers! By JohnnyFantastic book, If you grow bananas, get this book! History, diseases, propagation and awesome photos. I can't say enough about this book. Well worth the money! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. wonderful book, buy it By Mark Ventura To avoid repeating too much of the other reviews, I'll keep this short: this book is wonderful and worth every penny and then some. Incredibly detailed, accurate information on bananas that is either difficult or impossible to find elsewhere. Beautiful and helpful photography, practical identification keys, great stories, and more. Much of the book is focused on Hawaiian bananas and culture, but even if you don't live in Hawaii or grow Hawaiian bananas, there is still lots of other great stuff (about half of the book) that is applicable to other places.

Winner of the 2012 Ka Palapala Pookela Award for Excellence in Natural Science *The World of Bananas in Hawaii: Then and Now* unique, comprehensive, colorful, authoritative, readable and with over 1,900 color illustrations culminates nine years of exhaustive library research coupled with painstaking field and agricultural investigations in Hawaii and other Pacific islands. It is the first book about bananas in Hawaii and a major contribution to Hawaiian culture. It is also the first attempt to trace banana/plantain evolution within the Pacific. Truly a banana bible, it is written in highly accessible prose embracing a broad array of topics. Lavishly illustrated, it covers virtually every edible and inedible banana in Hawaii, Polynesian introduced and international, including the spectacular ornamentals and fei. *The World of Bananas* reflects a deep respect for Hawaiian oral history and esteemed post-contact literature, reviving long-forgotten traditional foods, chants, crafts, and everyday clothing woven from bananas. As a result of Angela Keplers 30-year Pacific-wide ecological research, readers will encounter original ideas (e.g., how migrant seabirds likely guided Marquesan seafarers to colonize Hawaii) and delight in the multihued tapestry of true-to-life banana tales from the nebulous dawn of Hawaiian history to the present (e.g., the rediscovery of legendary banana groves). The authors shed fascinating new light on Hawaii's little-known pregnant banana, maia hpai, and resurrect a long-forgotten minor goddess, Hina-ea, whose curative maia lele banana once healed vitamin A deficiencies in children. Interweaving extensive original research with judicious gleanings from a tiny worldwide network of banana specialists, this book provides new, dependable, and pictorial descriptions for 140 living varieties and 22 kinship groups, illustrated keys separating similar cultivars, hundreds of name synonyms, and information on pesticide-free care and maintenance, nutritional deficiencies, and troubleshooting pests/diseases. The mouth-watering recipe chapter includes savory dishes such as banana mayonnaise and meat-plantain casseroles.

[This book] will influence landscape and agricultural plantings in Hawaii and throughout the tropical world. Nothing even remotely close to this body of knowledge has existed before, and it was written specifically for Hawaii gardeners.-- "West Oahu Today" [This book] will influence landscape and agricultural plantings in Hawaii and throughout the tropical world. Nothing even remotely close to this body of knowledge has existed before, and it was written specifically for Hawaii gardeners. (West Oahu Today) Stupendous. Monumental. A work of epic proportions! This is a truly must have for all who are interested in bananas! A shot in the arm for Polynesian culture. A book for all Hawaiians to be proud of. An inspiration to all scientists to think holistically. The fabulous photos and wonderful stories impart the breath of life. (Jeffrey Daniells, Agri-Science, Australia) The authors may well be the only scientists in history to publish such a multifaceted book on a single crop . . . [a] tour de force of immensely ramified scientific documentation in a fluent style . . . delicious tales, true-to-life from ancient times, propel the reader onwards . . . proving the bananas immense but previously unrecognized value in ancient Hawaii . . . a broad vision of cultural history and peoples of Oceania. (Edmond De Langhe, founder, International Network for the Improvement of Banana and Plantain (INIBAP), France) Only when an enduring love of bananas conjoined with deep knowledge and hard work could such a masterpiece be created. Thoroughly researched, exquisitely illustrated, packed with obscure facts and written in an easy-to-read conversational tone, this extraordinary book is the definitive resource on *Musa* spp. in Hawaii and the Pacific . . . extensive experience with banana cultivation make *The World of Bananas* a true gem, biblical in its importance and permanence. (Dr. Scot C. Nelson, CTAHR, University of Hawaii) In this richly illustrated paean to bananas, variation in form is the recurring theme in a prose symphony with biological and cultural melodies. I can't remember ever having seen such a wealth of scientific information presented in prose accessible to everyone. The photos complement the text in spectacular fashion. Throughout, the authors reveal their delight in discovery of the natural world. (Dr. Richard Mansard, CTAHR, University of Hawaii) Just spectacular! It is a gift to us and future generations of Hawaiian and Pacific people, to be treasured for the next 100 years. (Lisa Raymond,

founding executive director, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens)An outstanding scientific contribution. This amazing piece of work is also an incredible piece of art. (Dr. Vincent Lebo, CIRAD, Vanuatu)An awe-inspiring, comprehensive labor of love. A masterpiece for the ages. (Dr. Kamaui Aiona, NTBG, Hana, Maui)Remarkable for its scope, indispensable for its level of detail and irresistible for its seamless weave of science, culture and natural history, this book beautifully blends practical facts with folk wisdom using rich illustrations, photos, diagrams and text . . . [it] will surely prove to be The Banana Bible not only across the Pacific, but around the world. (Jon Letman, environmental journalist)Wow. Its been two days since this book showed up on my doorstep, and my jaw is still hanging in amazement. I have about 1,200 books in my collection, and this one surely ranks among the top 10. In terms of content, quality of writing, research, and production, comprehensiveness, and abundance and quality of photos, this is a book without peer. . . . I am constantly tempted to indulge myself in reading this masterpiece. (David Karp, University of California, Riverside)This is an incredible feat. . . . I cannot begin to express my amazement. For many years I have read Pope, Higgins, Handy, old newspaper clippings, Hawaii forester reports, and listened to oral stories, trying to educate myself to recognize and appreciate the work of my ancestors. You have put together information on not only Hawaiian bananas but others as well. I can hardly wait to read the book in its entirety. (Jerry Konanui, a Hawaiian mahiai)