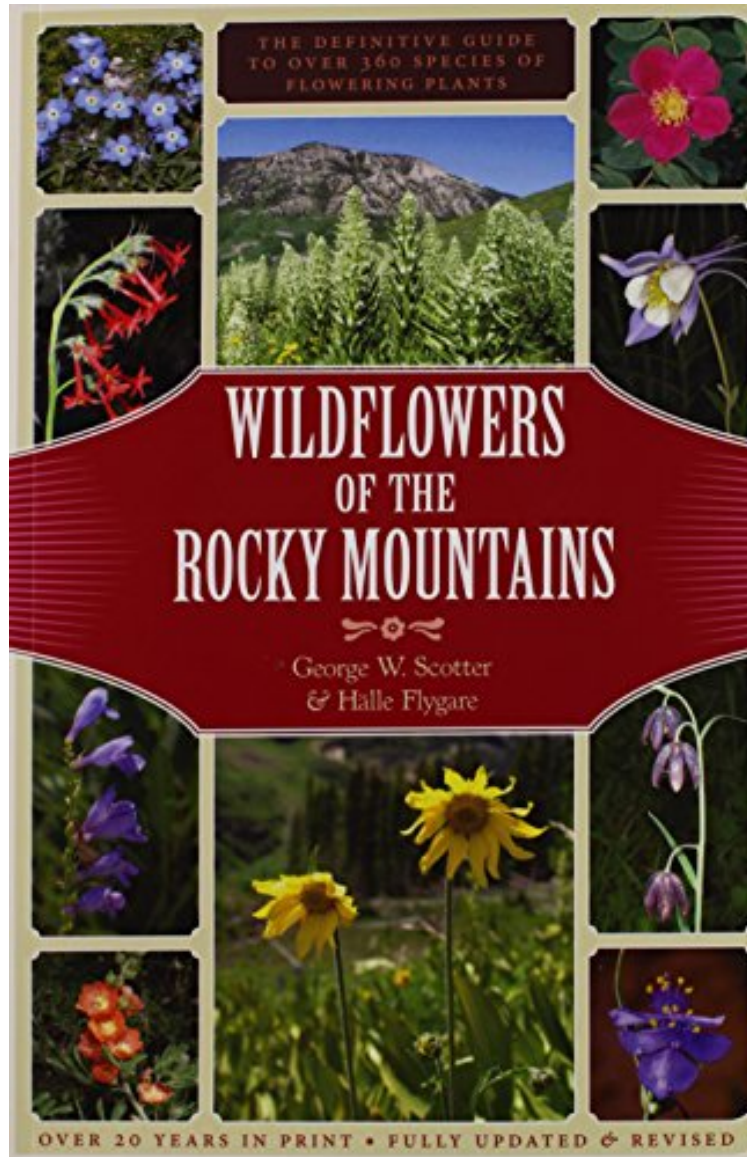


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## Wildflowers of the Rocky Mountains

*George Scotter, Halle Flygare*  
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**George Scotter, Halle Flygare : Wildflowers of the Rocky Mountains** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wildflowers of the Rocky Mountains:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Allows you to look for wildflowers by colorBy crmterrierThis is a great book for a new botanist. The flowers are categorized by color rather than alphabetically. This is an excellent way to quickly find out about the flower that you are seeing. My flower is yellow, now I only have to look through 30

flowers to find one that looks like the one I am seeing. It has great large print pictures to help you find the right flower. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wildflowers of the Rocky Mountains -- Scotter By Susan Powell This book is great. I already knew I liked it --that's why I placed my order. Great pictures; flowers identified that I had a hard time finding elsewhere; easy to use.

A field guide to the Rockies' exquisite wildflowers. The Rocky Mountains are natural botanical gardens of enormous diversity and interest. Wildflowers of the Rocky Mountains is a user-friendly field guide that features wildflowers from one end of the mountain chain to the other--from northern British Columbia to New Mexico. Each detailed description of the 350 species of plants has a full-color photograph for easy identification. Plants are grouped into six sections, according to flower color: white; yellow and cream; green; pink; red, orange, and brown; and purple and blue. Included are all the most common species likely to be encountered along the roadsides and hiking trails in the Rockies. Also featured are some rare and shy beauties found in more remote areas.

A large portion of the [book's] 360 species can be found in the Okanagan. -- J.P. Squire "The Okanagan Saturday" (08/04/2007) Even better than the original ... covers 360 species... carefully written and sturdily bound. -- Ben Gadd "Alberta Views" (09/30/2007) About the Author Dr. George W. Scotter has worked for the Bureau of Land Management in Idaho and as a range science professor at Utah State University. He won the prestigious J.B. Harkin medal for outstanding contributions to conservation. Halle Flygare, a member of the Swedish Association of Nature Photographers, has been photographing the flora and fauna of Alaska, Yukon, the Arctic and the Canadian Rockies for 30 years. He has worked as a forest technician for British Columbia and Alberta Forest Services, and as a park warden in Banff National Park. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Introduction During the summer months, the Rocky Mountains come alive with color. The great variety of elevations, climates, soil types, slopes, directional aspects, and rock formations provide an abundance of habitats for a wondrous variety of wildflowers to grow and flourish. The opportunity to become acquainted with new wildflowers is nearly endless in this spectacular mountain setting. This book is a revision and major expansion of the previous edition, entitled Wildflowers of the Canadian Rockies, first published in 1986. The original book was written for several reasons. Laypeople who had attended my wildflower classes over the years found that most field guides assumed a level of botanical expertise they did not have, and wanted a wildflower book they could use and understand. I also wanted to commemorate the centennial of Banff National Park since the treasures there and throughout the Rockies have done so much to enrich my life. The principal reason, however, was to educate the curious-minded about the incredible natural wonders to be found there. I believed then, as I do now, that an informed public is paramount in ensuring the wise management of these areas at the present and in the future. The first edition received flattering reviews. More importantly, over the 20 years the book has been available, many readers have commented that being able to identify and learn about wildflowers has enriched their experience of the Rocky Mountains and given them great pleasure. The goal of this edition is to greatly expand the coverage, to update the information provided, and to add new features such as distribution maps and standardized common plant names. Most of the plants included here are the more prevalent ones that people will encounter in the Rockies. A few less common ones are included to challenge the users of this book to search for and enjoy some of our rarer plants. Millions of people visit or live near the many national parks, provincial and state parks, national recreational areas, national monuments, national forests, and wildlife management areas within the Rocky Mountains (Figure 1). This field guide was written to assist everyone in recognizing some of the wildflowers they may encounter along the highways and hiking trails or near campgrounds and in the towns. My goal has been to make this book user friendly, simple, enjoyable to read, and accurate in detail. Being able to recognize the plants encountered and to call them by name is an indispensable and exciting first step in a deeper understanding and appreciation of the natural world. Be forewarned that a flower-finding hobby can become addictive and develop into a lifelong voyage of discovery! The level of detail provided in this field guide is likely adequate for most users. For those who are inspired to learn more, and I hope there will be many, a few selected references are included at the end of this book. Accurate identification of wildflowers requires an examination of each plant and its component parts. Here are some tips for using this field guide. Look carefully at the characteristics of the flowers, leaves, stems, fruits and berries, or seeds of the plant in question. Flowers Are the petals in 3's, 4's, 5's or more? What shape are the flowers -- urn-like, tubular, 2-lipped, or other? Are the flowers symmetrical or irregular? Are the flowers arranged in spikes, racemes, panicles, umbels, corymbs, or cymes? Do the flowers have special features like hoods, spurs, glands, or markings such as dots or stripes? Leaves Are the leaves at the base of the plant or all along the stem? Are the leaves arranged alternately or opposite one another along the stem? Do the leaves have petioles or do they clasp the stem? Are the leaf margins smooth, toothed, or double-toothed? What shape are the leaves? Are the leaves simple or divided? Are the leaves smooth or hairy? Stems What color is the stem? How tall is the stem? Is the stem smooth, hairy, or bumpy? Are there spines, thorns, shedding bark, or other markings? Fruits and berries What color are the fruits or berries? What shape are the fruits and berries? Are they shiny, powdery, or hairy? Are the fruits simple like strawberries or aggregate like raspberries? Seeds What color are the seeds? What shape are the seeds? Are the seeds

single, few, or many? Are there special mechanisms for dispersal such as burs or feathery attachments? Habitat Is the plant growing in a forested or non-forested area? If the plant is growing in a forest, is it a broadleaf deciduous forest or a coniferous forest? If the plant is growing in a non-forested habitat, is it in a grassland, wetland, meadow, or disturbed site? Is the plant in the foothills, montane, subalpine, or alpine zone? Is the plant growing in full sun, partial sun, or full shade? Is the soil wet, moist, dry, rocky, peaty, sandy, or otherwise? While my goal has been to keep technical terminology to a minimum, there is a need for readers to understand the basic structure of a plant and the parts that form a flower. Diagrams of a few flower structures (Figures 4 and 5), flower arrangements (Figure 6), leaf arrangements, leaf margins, and leaf shapes (Figure 7), and a glossary of terms have been included to assist the reader. Start by going to the relevant color section. The wildflowers are arranged by plant families into six color groups: (1) white; (2) yellow to cream; (3) green; (4) pink; (5) red, orange, and brown; and (6) purple to blue. Arbitrary decisions had to be made because some flowers are intermediate in color or show a range of variation at different stages of maturation or even on the same inflorescence. No one section is so large that determination is difficult, though it is advisable to check more than one section if color deviation is suspected. Identification is based entirely on comparison with a photograph and brief description. Identification from a color photograph has its limitations, but in most cases each photograph will lead the reader directly to the exact species or in those instances where a large number of species is involved, to the genus. In the past, confusion resulted because a multiplicity of common names was used for the same plant, often varying from region to region and country to country. Recently, the United States Department of Agriculture standardized common names for plants and those names have been used throughout this field guide. Since all users may not accept some of these names, some of the old common names have been added to help in the transition to the standardized ones. For each plant, the scientific name has also been given. These names are more consistent and precise than the common names and are used by botanists all over the world. Each botanical name consists of two parts, comparable to the way in which we give names to people belonging to different families. In plant names, however, the first part tells the genus (group) to which the plant belongs; for example, *Rosa*, which refers to members of the rose genus. This is the same as a surname or family name, such as Jones. The second part of the botanical name indicates the species (particular member of the group); for example, *acicularis*, which means "with needle-like prickles." This is comparable to the given name of an individual, such as Tom in Tom Jones. The Latin names used here follow those suggested by the United States Department of Agriculture. Several examples of how scientific names were derived are included among the plant descriptions. For all of the species described and illustrated, I have added observations about their distribution within the Rocky Mountains. Each description gives information about the vegetation zone or zones in which the plant occurs. In addition, a map accompanies each description showing where the plant may be found among the two provinces and eight states within the limits of the Rocky Mountains. The term "throughout the Rockies" does not imply that a wildflower or shrub is distributed from the northern to the southern limits of the Rockies. It implies only that the plant is found in each of the provinces and states where the Rockies occur, as shown on the small maps. A plant may be limited to a small portion only of any province or state. As flowering times vary so much according to altitude, latitude, and other ecological conditions, and because the growing season is so short in the Rocky Mountains, no attempt has been made to include this information for all species. The Rocky Mountain region is a vertical land where spring and summer ascend the slopes and a flower that blooms in May in the river valleys might not flower until July, or even later, at higher altitudes. I have not discriminated between native plants and introduced plants, many of the latter being among today's common species. Only herbaceous plants and shrubs have been included; trees, ferns, horsetails, grasses, sedges, rushes, lichens, and mosses have been excluded. To add interest to the field guide, I have added supplemental notes on use of the plants by wildlife and humans past and present, as well as some of the rich folklore surrounding the origins and powers of various plants. Wild plants should not be collected or used unless they are abundant and grow outside protected areas. Extreme caution should be taken before eating, or even handling, certain plants. Misidentification and improper use of plants can cause sickness or even death. Children should be educated about wild plants, but always with an awareness of their sometimes toxic nature. Remember that wildflowers within our parks and wilderness areas are protected by law and s...