

A Field Guide to the Ants of New England

By Aaron M. Ellison, Nicholas J. Gotelli Ph.D., Elizabeth J. Farnsworth, Gary D. Alpert Ph.D.

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This book is the first user-friendly regional guide devoted to ants—the “little things that run the world.” Lavishly illustrated with more than 500 line drawings, 300-plus photographs, and regional distribution maps as composite illustrations for every species, this guide will introduce amateur and professional naturalists and biologists, teachers and students, and environmental managers and pest-control professionals to more than 140 ant species found in the northeastern United States and eastern Canada.

The detailed drawings and species descriptions, together with the high-magnification photographs, will allow anyone to identify and learn about ants and their diversity, ecology, life histories, and beauty. In addition, the book includes sections on collecting ants, ant ecology and evolution, natural history, and patterns of geographic distribution and diversity to help readers gain a greater understanding and appreciation of ants.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This ground-breaking field guide not only contributes to our basic knowledge of ants, but places the ants of New England within reach of those interested in the natural history of the region."—Edward O. Wilson, University Research Professor Emeritus, Harvard University
(Edward O. Wilson 2011-06-30)

“This goes beyond any ant book that has come before it and puts it in line with the popular and best bird books on the market….readable and easy to use by non-experts.”—Sean Menke, Lake Forest College
(Sean Menke 2012-02-20)

“…a great combination of natural history, a little anecdote, and gorgeous inspired figures.”—Michael Kaspari, University of Oklahoma
(Michael Kaspari 2012-02-20)

“…[Will] appeal to [anyone] interested in insects or natural history in general, as well as those who are truly ant enthusiasts.”—Jane O’Donnell, University of Connecticut

(Jane O’Donnell 2012-02-21)

“This…is phenomenal! …a fantastic job [and] will be very usable for all students. ...I love the natural history and details about all the ants- especially the names! The matrix keys are GREAT and really helpful.”—Katherine Bennett, 5th grade teacher
(Katherine Bennett 2012-02-21)

“The book is wonderful. I never have seen a book with so much information together about biology, ecology, morphology, taxonomy, keys to species and pictures. All myrmecologists will want a copy.”—Rogério R. Silva, Museu de Zoologia/USP/Entomologia São Paulo
(Rogério R. Silva 2012-03-01)

“[A] comprehensive and lucid consideration of the over 130 ant species living in or around New England. The authors…successfully convey their sense of wonder at and appreciation for an animal whose complex and fascinating lives are unknown to most, despite their ubiquity.”—*Publishers Weekly*

(*Publishers Weekly*)

“What a gorgeous field guide! Congratulations on such a comprehensive and USEFUL resource.”—Joan Herbers, Ohio State
University
(Joan Herbers 2012-10-18)

“The descriptions for the various Formica species groups are the best I’ve seen, and the drawings throughout are absolutely excellent.”—Adam Clark, University of Minnesota

(Adam Clark 2012-10-18)

"Your field guide is a really fascinating and interesting book. I like the matrix keys, at the beginning of the book and look forward to testing them with specimens. The combination of drawings and photographs provides a useful tool."—Claude Pilon, Entomofaune du Québec
(Claude Pilon 2012-10-19)

“What a wonderful addition to the entomological world! There are so many features that make it exceptional: The keys by size on the front flyleaf, the basics of ant anatomy on the back, the arrows on the diagrams, distribution maps, interesting notes on species, the background material and biography. Delightful!”—Charlene Donahue, Maine Entomological Society, President
(Charlene Donahue 2012-10-22)

“This book sets a gold standard…Ground-breaking, intelligent, and innovative…and [it] will inspire similar works for other regions around the world.”—*Myrmecological News*
(*Myrmecological News*)

“Outstanding, well-written.” —*Choice*

(*Choice*)

Winner of the 2013 International Book Awards in the General Science category.
(International Book Awards *International Book Awards* 2013-05-21)

“Destined to be known, at least in myrmecological circles, as ‘The New England Bible.’”—*The Quarterly Review of Biology* (*The Quarterly Review of Biology*)

“fascinating to novices and experts alike.”—*Invertebrate Notes*
(*Invertebrate Notes*)

“includes everything you’ve ever wished for in a field guide.”—Joan Waltermire, *Northern Woodlands*
(Joan Waltermire *Northern Woodlands*)

About the Author

Aaron M. Ellison is senior research fellow in ecology at Harvard University's Harvard Forest and adjunct research professor of biology and environmental conservation at the University of Massachusetts.**Nicholas J. Gotelli** is professor of biology at the University of Vermont. **Elizabeth J. Farnsworth** is senior research ecologist at New England Wild Flower Society. **Gary D. Alpert** is an environmental biologist on the staff of the Environmental Health and Safety Department at Harvard University.

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