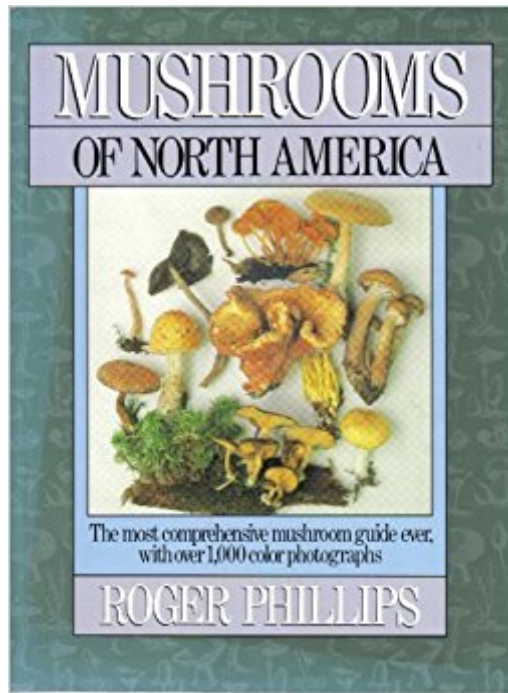




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# Mushrooms Of North America



## Synopsis

Praise for the hardcover edition: "The quality of the photographs, along with the detailed descriptions, makes the volume an excellent identification guide." -- American Reference Books Annual "If you have even the slightest interest in identifying North American mushrooms, this is -- quite simply -- the book on the topic, bar none." -- January Magazine For amateur collectors or professional mycologists working in the field, this guidebook is quite simply the best North American mushroom reference ever published. Each of the 1,000 specimens is shown in full color on a neutral background to eliminate distractions, and specimens are arranged to show the cap, stem, gills, spines and a cross section, usually in various stages of growth. Roger Phillips identifies all regional varieties of Basidiomycetes, which include chanterelles, puffballs and fungi, and Ascomycetes, which include morels and cup fungi. Detailed descriptive information on each mushroom variety includes: Dimensions of cap, gills and stem Color and texture of flesh Odor and taste Habitat and growing season Distribution and appearance of spores Edibility and poison warnings There is also helpful advice on collecting specimens plus an illustrated beginner identification key and a generic key for the more advanced collector. Mushrooms and Other Fungi of North America is at once the ideal introduction to mycology and an essential reference for the experienced collector -- the definitive book in its category. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In this beautifully illustrated book, Phillips vividly presents the world of mushrooms. Unlike the photographs in other guides, which are taken in the field, the more than 1000 color photographs

featured here were shot in the studio in order to capture both the external features of mushrooms as well as their internal anatomy. Each picture includes specimens representing various stages of growth, and the accompanying annotation describes the anatomy of the cap, gills, stem, and spores. In addition, the author explains where the particular species of mushroom is found, its season of growth, and whether or not it is edible. Amateur mycologists as well as professionals in the field will find this book an invaluable guide. Highly recommended as a basic library reference source.- Paul C. Radich, Univ. of IndianapolisCopyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a paperback version of the well-received 2005 hardcover book of the same name. The 2005 publication was previously published as *Mushrooms of North America* (Little, Brown, 1991). Although this does not detract from the wealth of useful information contained here, it alerts the many libraries holding the earlier versions. Author Phillips is widely respected for his many fungi and horticultural books. He is able to engage the assistance of many experts, thereby increasing the value to users. The introduction includes information on mushroom poisoning and handling of mushrooms and generic beginner's keys with and without sample photographs. Mycological terminology is very specialized, so the glossary is most welcome to novice and expert users. The descriptions of each species include geographic range and fruiting season and a statement of poison danger or a comment on edibility. There are two important differences in the new version. One is the absence of a bibliography. The other is that the quality of the photographs is not as good as in the 2005 hardcover. An advantage of the paperback for mycologists and amateur fungi enthusiasts is its portability in a mushroom searcher's pocket, bag, or collection basket. If an earlier version of the guide is not in a library's collection, this one should be. --Linda Scarth  
--This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

It left out a lot of mushrooms & puff balls that I have had in other mushroom books. I don't feel like some of the descriptions were as precise as I want. Same for the pics. If I'm going to eat them, I want to be sure of what I'm eating.

Very nice photography of each mushroom, often several angles, and the descriptions are carefully done and interesting. Excellent guide and textbook, almost. The fungi people I've been with here are happy to own several identification guides. It could be helpful to have a smaller or lighter more compact guide if your hunting foray will have you in the field for some hours. Phillips' book is heavier

to carry about but if you're out more briefly, it's still portable enough. Nice book.

I own several mushroom books, including most of the field guides. This book has been the most useful, but it is not perfect. I don't eat or smoke the mushrooms, so my interest is purely in photographing and identifying them. Here are my thoughts:

The positives:

1. I live in Florida, and I have been able to find most of the larger species in this book.
2. For each species, it describes the cap, gills, stem, flesh, spores, habitat, season, and whether or not it is edible or poisonous.
3. There is a photo of each species described in the book.
4. It covers more species than most other books.
5. It is great for someone who wants to identify mushrooms with pictures rather than keys, more for general interest than eating them.

The negatives:

1. There is no key to species--just pictures and descriptions--which is necessary for someone who intends to eat the mushrooms to verify identification.
2. The pictures are only just average quality.
3. The book is big and heavy--I wouldn't take it in the field with me.
4. Polypores are undercovered, as are a number of southern mushroom species.
5. Many of the exact pictures in the book can be found on Roger's mushroom website, so the website could be used instead of the book.

Overall, I am happy I bought the book, and I think it's a nice addition to my library.

Excellent book . Very detailed. Beautifully illustrated.

Interesting read, but didn't leave me with enough confidence to go out in the woods and pick my own and know I'll live to go again.

This is a gift for my husband who is always dragging in different type mushrooms so I can look them up on the internet. It is very nicely illustrated, so it should be a fun book for him to have around.

Very good sound guide, however I find it difficult to easily find the species as they are not in alphabetical order. Other than that the pictures are very clear with multiple views of differently aged specimens, which is very helpful.

This was a gift. It is a very nice book and easy to read.

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