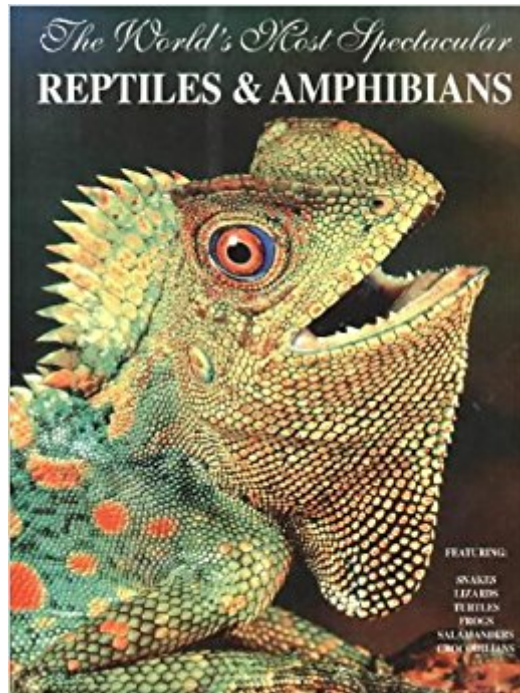




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The World's Most Spectacular Reptiles And Amphibians



Synopsis

Book by Lamar, William W.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lamar celebrates beautiful and unusual reptiles and amphibians in this stunning collection of photographs. The author, an associate herpetologist at both the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History and the National Serpentarium in San Jose, Costa Rica, has studied reptiles and amphibians in Central and South America for many years. A page overview of each group (turtles and tortoises, crocodiles, lizards, snakes, salamanders and newts, caecilians, and frogs) is followed by close-up color photographs showing the animals' vivid colors, beautiful patterns, or unusual forms. A paragraph including common and scientific names, adult size, habitat, range, diet, reproduction, and interesting facts accompanies each photograph. While *The Encyclopedia of Reptiles and Amphibians* (1986), edited by Tim R. Halliday and Kraig Adler, provides a more detailed look at reptile and amphibian biology and natural history, this visual treat is recommended for public libraries for its spectacular photographs. Sue O'Brien, Downers Grove P.L., Ill. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This book certainly does have spectacular pictures. However, this book lacks the style or personality that could come from one of the premier field herpetologists of our time. William Lamar has a wealth of experiences and anecdotes that could certainly enhance the character of this book.

Instead, the limited text reads as if it could have been written by anyone with a knowledge about reptiles and amphibians. This could have been overlooked and taken for a picture book with some information. Unfortunately the editing for the text is terrible. The spelling and grammatical errors are numerous. The first error presents itself by the third sentence of the inside cover jacket! Although this is a first edition print I find this very distracting and takes much away from the professionalism and credibility of this book. If you are looking for stunning photographs this book is a 10. However, if you want unique information or stories from those that have 'been there' and with credible editing then I have to give it a 2.

This book has some of the best specimens in large photos. You can count on this book for information on the country of origin of the reptals and amphibians it covers.

Bought this book to show my students the different colors and shapes of reptiles. They loved it! Fantastic subjects and great photos.

This book, while not very wordy and informative in the text, is what I believe to be the best pictorial on the many varieties of reptiles and amphibians. Most of the pictures say more than words ever could. The photos deal with animals such as the red eyed tree frog, which are on half the shirts and coffee mugs known to man, to extremely rare and odd animals such as the Borneo earless lizard, caiman lizard, Bismarck ringed python, spiny-headed treefrog, and even golden toads in amplexus. The pictures are clear, crisp, and big, so you get the detail of the colors and shapes gracing the many animals in this book. I am so glad that there are finally pictures of the more obscure reptiles and amphibians so there is no more squinting at bad black and white photos in a dictionary. This book is a must for the Herp enthusiast, no matter how amateur or professional.

I bought this book and while the photos are, in many cases spectacular, the book itself does not match the previous work by the author. Granted, you get to see pictures of some extremely rare and little-known herps. But, that just whets the appetite for more; especially a bit of text for edification, something which Lamar is perfectly capable of doing. I had hoped this would be on a par with the author's work in the "Venomous Reptiles of Latin America" but it does not match the scope of that monumental work. Alas, this is exactly what it purports to be, an expensive albeit very well done book of pictures. It is worth having if you have money to spare and wish to fill your shelves.

This is a great reptile and amphibian book for a wide audience. The color photography alone is breathtaking! (If you don't believe me, just put some of the exquisite photos in front of your cherished herps and see what they do! It will be romeo and juliet re-visited right in your own home! Sincerely, Jen E. known fondly as the "lizard lady" in my town! P.S.-Get the hardcover version! It's a book that any herpetology enthusiast will enjoy for years to come!

This award-winning book is so beautiful, it makes even the most timid want to become reptile lovers! The photography is first rate, the reptiles shown are, well, spectacular, and the book is exquisitely put together. Just stunning! I was so impressed that I just had to see this company's other "The World's Most Spectacular..." book on seashells. Bought them both to give as gifts this year!

I have collected, purchased and studied reptiles and amphibians all of my life since age 11 and photographically this is the finest book on the market. I have seen a lot of old and current friends here. If you only buy one book of photographs on the subject this is it.

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