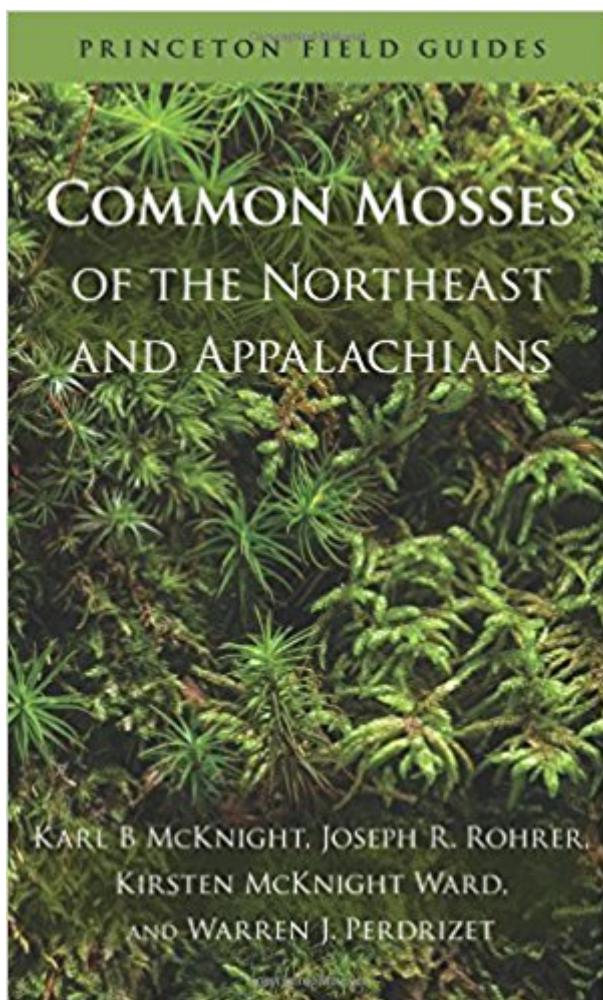


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# Common Mosses Of The Northeast And Appalachians (Princeton Field Guides)



## Synopsis

This is the first book to help general readers recognize 200 common mosses of the Northeast and the Appalachian Mountains. With just this field guide, a hand lens, and a spray bottle--no microscopes necessary--readers will be able to identify and name many of the common species of mosses growing in the region's backyards, parks, forests, wetlands, and mountains. At the heart of this guide is an innovative, color-tabbed system that helps readers pick out small groups of similar species. Illustrated identification keys, colorful habitat and leaf photos, more than 600 detailed line drawings, and written descriptions help differentiate the species. This accessible book allows all nature enthusiasts to make accurate identifications and gain access to the enchanting world of mosses.

200 species included More than 600 detailed line drawings More than 400 color photographs Innovative color-tabbed system for species identification Illustrated species identification keys Helpful tips for moss collecting

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"With a 10X loupe and this book, an entire new world can be opened to even a seasoned naturalist."--DRK, Wildlife Activist"Since this is the first moss field guide for the eastern states covering most common species, it fills a need for those interested in these plants."--Choice"I have no doubt that this guide will become a trusted field companion for outdoor educators and amateur naturalists, who may be new to moss identification, as well as to botanists interested in refreshing their moss identification skills. Common Mosses fills a long-standing void in moss field guides for

the region, and, as such, this guide will make the identification of these small plants more accessible to a wider botanical audience."--J. M. Budke, *Plant Science Bulletin*"This is a perfect book for the incipient bryologist of the temperate region, and is a pleasure to leaf through for the more experienced one. . . . I have seen quite a number of field guides to bryophytes that are intended for beginners or people who have a general interest in nature, and this book is one of the very best. Without compromises regarding scientific accuracy or illustration quality it introduces the relatively difficult mosses in a superb way."--Lars Hedenas, *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society*"This guide is an excellent field manual that should enhance the appreciation of a group that has been largely overlooked by many naturalists. If you have never stopped on a hiking trail to closely examine a bank of mosses on a rotting log or on a boulder along a mountain stream, you should. By examining the delicate structures of these tiny plants and by comprehending their immense diversity here in the Appalachians, you will greatly expand your awareness of the natural world."--Gary Walker, *Appalachian Journal*

"Full of clear diagrams, excellent photos, and evocative descriptions, this splendid guide shows readers what mosses are and how to study them. Vegetative and reproductive characteristics are presented so that different species can be readily compared, feature by feature. This remarkable, delightful book makes a great contribution to the understanding and appreciation of moss diversity, and to the conservation of mosses."--Susan Moyle Studlar, *West Virginia University*"This attractive and inviting guide will serve an important function in promoting the study of common mosses by nonspecialists. The interesting combination of drawings, field pictures, and dissecting microscope shots is effective, and the authors offer accurate, relevant, and scientifically solid information. A great addition to the botanical and natural history literature."--Jon Shaw, *Duke University*

This book should be on the shelf of any lover of the outdoors in northeastern U.S. The best part is the excellent photographs. They good enough for anybody to get at least close to a correct identification of the mosses they encounter. My only serious complaint is that the authors have used casual terms for moss parts without giving the corresponding technical terms in the book. It is supposed to make the book more accessible to non-professionals but it will make it hard for beginners to appreciate that lid means operculum when they try to use other books. Their identification method is a bit unorthodox and will take some getting used to.

As a visitor from the Netherlands who likes to identify mosses and liverworts and has an active

knowledge of these plants, I ordered this book to help me identify some of the mosses I find in Maine. I have Conards key and Crum and Anderson but I left those books at home. I found this book to be very helpful in getting some direction, particularly for moss species that are rare in my country. My access to microscopes here is very limited, so I have to make do with the pictures and the text. Unfortunately no liverworts. Pictures are, in general, good, and so is the text. I think there could be a little more guidance on *Brachythecium*s and similar mosses.

This is a fairly good book with a decent variety of mosses presented in a well-arranged fashion. The guide at the beginning as well as the individual ID keys are helpful. I really appreciate the back index that lists species according to habitat. The close up photos as well as the illustrations on each species are nicely done. The negative... I would really appreciate one more photo on each species to show what the moss looks like in a group. The closeup and microscopic photos are nice, but it's not how one typically sees mosses in the wild. I'm keeping this book and finding it useful, but I'm also hunting for an additional guide that can supplement this one. Nothing against this book in particular, but I think it's always useful to have two guides on any topic. Plus, I'm just a casual field observer, so additional information and photos would be helpful.

For the first time, it's possible for beginners to identify mosses without a struggle. The keys are user-friendly. This book will make mosses accessible to many more amateur naturalists. If your plant is not common enough to find the species exactly, at least you can get a running start. It has recently been possible to identify a moss from one of my study plots that I have been wondering about for years. In the past, I was too intimidated by the technical books I had struggled with, so put the job off.

I live on a small but diverse 3 acre wooded lot in NW CT. There is a seemingly endless number of mosses, all astonishingly beautiful, waiting to be observed and identified on my little acreage. The delicate perfection of each tiny plant is a marvel and this book has helped me grow in my appreciation of these beautiful plants. I would highly recommend this guide to anyone who enjoys a walk in the woods, or even a shady place in the garden. Mosses are all around us and, for me, it is a pleasure to be able to identify them. The book is well organized, clear and concise. Identifying the various mosses is simple with this book as a reference.

I go out in the woods a lot, and this book makes moss identification fun and accessible. Especially

helpful is that the book provides a large photo of the moss as it will look when you see it in the forest, plus smaller pictures of the leaves as you'll see them if you look in a microscope, plus a drawing showing you what about the leaves are distinctive. Plus, each species description also includes a "similar species" section, which I've used so many times. It also has written descriptions of the appearance, leaves, capsules and habitat. This book will help you appreciate the fabulous diversity of Northeastern mosses.

I found this a very useful guide to mosses in the White Mountains. There we have a plethora of many mosses and the guide provides a simple and direct way to determine what one sees. Basically there is a branch and leaf type guide on the edges of the pages and nicely color coded so that determining a species is very straightforward. The photos are clear and detailed and the specifics detail the plant at visual and microscopic levels. The book is sturdy for field use and is useful for both beginners and those with more experience in the field. The only negative is that it is a bit heavy and thick but the detail is worth the extra few ounces.

Very useable and useful field guide.

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