
Ferns of the Southeastern States. *John Kunkel Small.* Hafner Publishing Company, New York, (facsimile of the 1938 edition), 1964. 517 p. \$10.00.

All botanists interested in the flora of the southeast United States will appreciate having this excellent facsimile available. There is no region in the United States in which there is a greater abundance of species or more interesting species problems than the southeast. The book is abundantly illustrated with no loss of detail from the original publication. The geographic area covered is that south of the Virginia-Kentucky state line and east of the Mississippi River. One short-coming of the book may be its lack of the latest nomenclature and synonymy, but this need not necessarily detract from the book's usefulness to the botanist interested in ferns. The text includes illustrated keys to orders, families, and genera. This includes nine families of ferns as well as orders and families of the so-called "fern allies", i.e., Equisetaceae, Lycopodiaceae, Selaginellaceae, and Isoetaceae.

Included with the taxonomic treatment of each species, Dr. Small discusses the taxon in considerable detail regarding history, known collections, known geographic distribution, geology and habitat information. Also of considerable importance is the chapter on general and restricted distribution of the species described. A quick check indicates whether the species is of general distribution in the southeast, north, west, tropics, or is cosmopolitan. At the back of the book is a taxonomic list of species with citations.

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