

which, among other things, illustrate aerials, consoles, "angels" on p.p.i.'s, "wing-beat patterns" and radar signatures, the different appearances of migratory movements of warblers, thrushes and shorebirds, and "ring-angels" produced by starlings leaving their roosts. It is unfortunate that the photographs have a flat grey quality (the publishers could surely have done better) and I do not like their cardboard-cutout appearance. There are five pages of references but it is unfortunate that many bird-radar studies have not been listed e.g. only one paper by Bellrose is included. I found more than a few inaccurate and incomplete citations.

This book is an indispensable introduction to radar-migration studies. It will be useful to anyone wishing really to understand the background of regional or species studies, based on radar observations, that have appeared in *Ibis*, *British Birds*, *Bird-banding* and other journals in recent years. It will be essential first reading for anyone preparing to conduct a radar study. By providing them with an explanation of the physical basis of radar as it applies to studies of birds with such sophisticated machinery, Dr. Eastwood has done ornithologists a great service, and he has done a good job also of making a bird-radar literature that is often excessively tedious, interesting for the general reader. Thank you Dr. Eastwood!

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### Rocky Mountain Flora

By WILLIAM A. WEBER. University of Colorado Press, Boulder. 1967. viii + 437 pp. \$9.40 U.S.

This is an excellent book, which I recommend with only one reservation. The scope is not as wide as the title

suggests, for, as explained on the title page, it covers the southern Rocky Mountains from Pike's Peak to Rocky Mountain National Park and from the plains to the continental divide. Nevertheless it will simplify field identification in most of Colorado and will be a useful supplement in adjoining areas.

In order to include the 1500 species of vascular plants of the Front Range it was necessary to omit full descriptions. Instead the final division of the key often gives supplementary information, allowing the user to confirm his identification. The book is essentially what in Europe is generally termed an excursion flora. Many of the widespread species are illustrated with excellent line drawings by C. F. Yokum.

The keys are frankly artificial, but are based on abundant experience and seem to be thoroughly practical. (I was impressed by the warning in a preliminary key that poison ivy occurs in the group in question.) In strongly represented families there may be separate keys to each genus; but, where few species occur, space is saved by treating the whole family in a single key.

All too often condensed floras, aimed principally at the amateur naturalist, are of very little use to more serious workers. In contrast, Weber's book shows how well a skillful author can combine simplicity with completeness and accuracy. There are no species citations and only minimal synonyms; but, to judge from examination of sample genera the taxonomy and nomenclature is extremely up to date. In fact one species is included that was published in December 1966. Thus, for those requiring modern nomenclature and species concepts for the region, this book will be extremely valuable.

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