

BOOK NOTICES

RODNEY W. BOVEY. 2016. **Mesquite: History, Growth, Biology, Uses, and Management.** (ISBN-13: 978-1-62349-428-5, hbk). Texas A&M University Press, John H. Lindsey Building, Lewis Street, 4354 TAMU, College Station, Texas 77843-4354, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.tamupress.com, 1-800-826-8911). \$45.00, 280 pp., 50 color photographs, 8 tables, 11 line art, 2 figures, glossary, bibliography, index, 8½" × 11".

From the publisher: Global problem or treasure? This question has accompanied the widespread and controversial mesquite tree wherever it grows and is studied around the world. In this comprehensive reference to the genus *Prosopis*, rangeland scientist Rodney Bovey has gathered and synthesized years of research in a book that reflects our current state of knowledge about the biology, morphology, and management of mesquite.

Environmentally adaptive, the mesquite is considered by many to be an invasive or a pest species, and Bovey addresses the concerns about mesquite encroachment worldwide. But he also explains its ecological importance in the prevention of erosion and desertification and in providing food and habitat for wildlife.

In addition, Bovey traces the uses of mesquite by humans and discusses the economics of growing and harvesting mesquite. A handy guide to the names, locations, distributions, habitat, structure, and uses of several species of mesquite is included in this benchmark publication for ecologists, range managers, biologists, landowners, and students of agriculture and ecosystem science.

Rodney W. Bovey retired after thirty years with the Agricultural Research Service at the US Department of Agriculture and is now an adjunct professor of ecosystem science and management at Texas A&M.

Mesquite trees are lovely. They have beauty and character. Having grown up with mesquite trees, I have a place for them in my heart, and they were not our enemy on the family farm as they are in some places. I wished I had one in my home landscape. The author explains, "Mesquite is widely used as an ornamental shade tree in all parts of the world. It is desired because of its various growth forms, attractiveness, and low maintenance requirements."—*Barney Lipscomb, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.*

USDA. 2016. **Important Plants of the Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). An Appendix to the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide and Planning Tool - Southern Great Plains Edition.**

USDA. 2016. **Important Plants of the Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). An Appendix to the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide and Planning Tool - Midwest Edition.**

The Southern Great Plains Edition is a 93-page report in full color while the Midwest Edition has 179 pages. The high resolution PDFs are freely available from USDA. Simply search for "USDA monarch butterfly initiative." Each plant is provided with Common Name(s), Latin Name, Duration, Growth Habit, Plant Height, Blooms/Fruits, Distinguishing Characteristics, Pollinator Value, Habitat, and occasionally with additional notes. A US distribution map is also included for each along with several color photos.