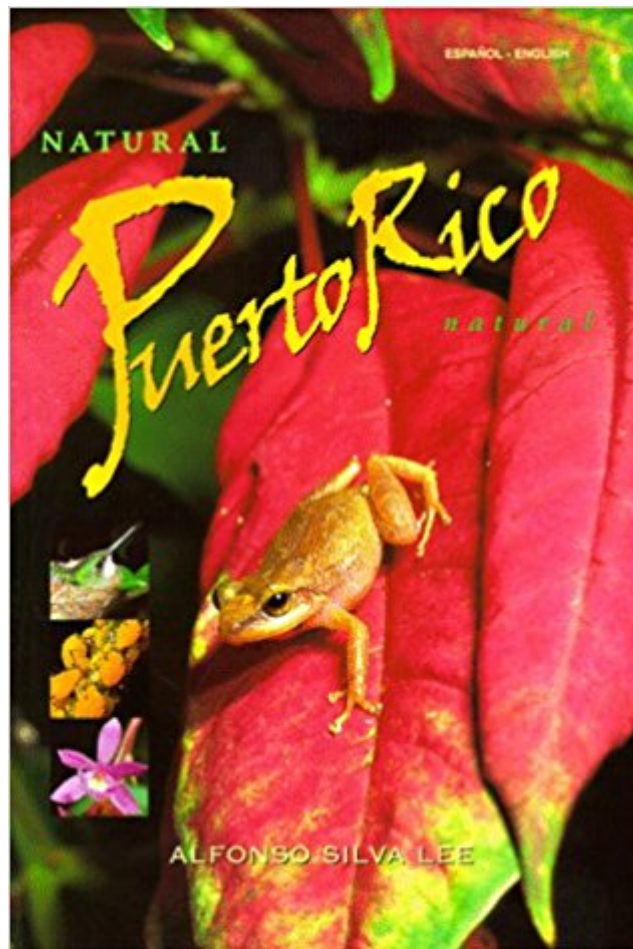


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Natural Puerto Rico / Puerto Rico Natural



Synopsis

The coquí- is a famous and very abundant little frog whose powerful voice fills the Puerto Rican nights. The island is home to over a dozen other species of tiny and beautiful frogs, and hundreds and hundreds of species of insects, snails, lizards and birds, many of which live nowhere else in the world. Here you will learn about the ways and lives of Puerto Rican animals, about how they came to exist, and why they are unique. You will also find out how these wonderful creatures depend upon the plants and upon each other; and what benefits bacteria, fungi and termites give to the forest. Many of these creatures appear photographed here for the first time. Written in Spanish-English bilingual parallel text for adults and young adults and illustrated with 75 color photographs and two drawings, the book is fully indexed and includes scientific names. El coquí-, la famosa y abundante ranita que llena de tantos sonidos la noche puertorriqueña, tiene en la isla más de una decena de hermanos y hermanas, saltarines y también cantores. Los acompañan en los bosques infinidad de insectos, moluscos, caracoles, lagartos y aves, buena parte de los cuales no viven en ningún otro lugar del mundo. Aquí descubrirás un buen número de animales nativos de Puerto Rico, y aprenderás acerca de sus costumbres y formas de vida, de su origen, y de por qué son únicos en el planeta. Aprenderás cómo los animales dependen de las plantas, y también unos de otros; y qué beneficio brindan al bosque las bacterias, hongos y comejenes. Muchas de estas criaturas aparecen aquí fotografiadas por vez primera. Incluidas 75 fotografías a color, 2 ilustraciones, nombres científicos, e índice.

Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

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Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Reference

Customer Reviews

For many in this country, it is probable that the definition of indigenous fauna is limited simply to the coqui. But, for Cuban biologist Alfonso Silva Lee, the variety of animals on the Island is extended above and beyond the famous frog, immortalized as a souvenir, in the majority of cases, erroneously. Because, generally, the frogs that are seen on these T-shirts or ceramic figures so coveted by the tourists are representations of South American species. With this new book, however, the misinformation could begin to be corrected. EL NUEVO DÍA, San Juan, PR --Por Dentro, September 7, 1999 In Natural Puerto Rico, Alfonso Silva Lee invites us to know the fauna of this beautiful island, and he does it in a scientific way, with an agile and congenial style, and with some overwhelmingly beautiful photographs. (Periódico Todo Gráfico (Mercedita, PR), November 16, 1998) --(Periódico Todo Gráfico (Mercedita, PR), November 16, 1998)

Text: English, Spanish

This book would be a small beginner's (preteen) handy pocket guide IF HALF THE BOOK WEREN'T IN SPANISH!!! BOTH translations are on the SAME page, making it VERY hard to read page to page (not Spanish on one page, English on the other as is NORMALLY done). Was hoping for an educated person's field guide (have a minor in Limnology), explaining the myriad of flora and fauna of Puerto Rico and their interdependence - not a lesson in GENERAL biology 101. There are so MANY unique species in PR, but this book barely covers any of them (maybe if the book was in 100% English, there would be more room for that info! Most of the pictures are VERY small, with a one-sentence description, and with some (amateurish) photos - no detailed text pertaining to the various species shown. Would have been more informative (and MUCH cheaper) to just Google the data on PR and print out the info, than pay for this total waste of paper and space! Too bad the pages are slick, can't even be used as toilet paper!

This is the best book about Puerto Rico fauna and natural history. The book is written in english and spanish with a set of wondrously beautiful photographs and is very easy to read.

Featuring beautiful color photography and a bilingual text in both Spanish and English, Natural Puerto Rico by Alfonso Silva Lee takes the reader on a fascinating tour of the wondrous types of life forms that can be found in Puerto Rico, from fungi to spiders and insects to frogs, lizards, snakes, bats, birds, and more. A fascinating exploration of wild beauty and marvels, Natural Puerto Rico is very highly recommended for armchair travelers and nature lovers alike.

This book does well what it aims to do: introduce middle and high school students to natural history, using Puerto Rico as a framework. As an experienced naturalist, I found it disappointing. Most of the content is very general rather than specific to Puerto Rico, with the exception of the wonderful photographs and their captions. If you know little about natural history, you may enjoy this book. But if you are looking for depth on the unique Puerto Rican flora and fauna, don't waste your time with this one.

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