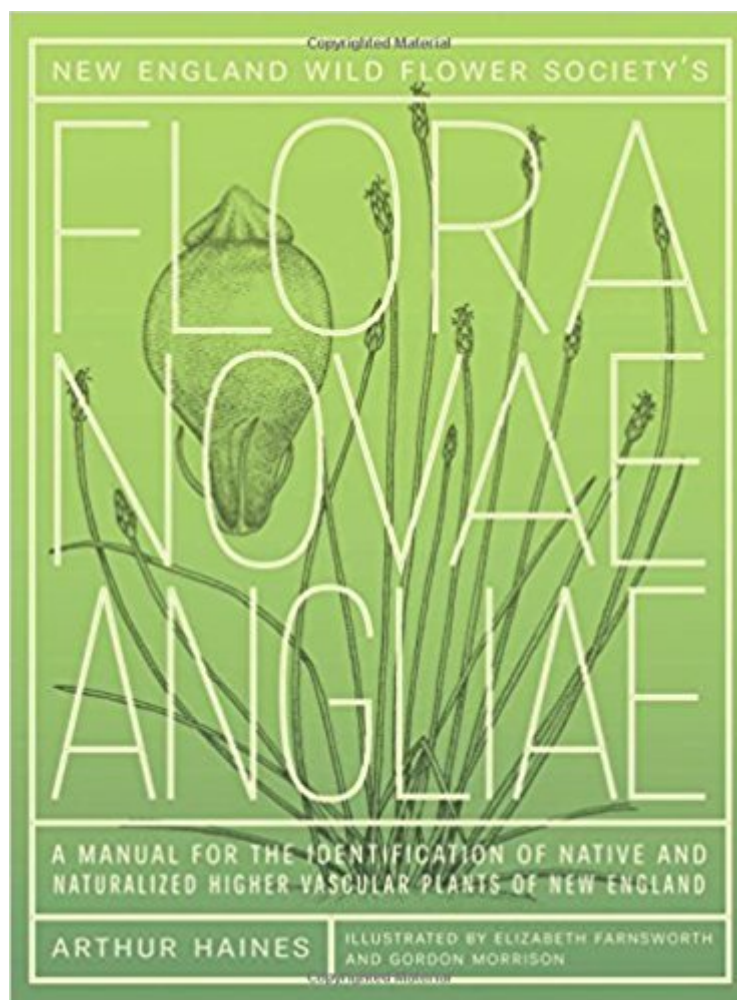


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# New England Wild Flower Society's Flora Novae Angliae: A Manual For The Identification Of Native And Naturalized Higher Vascular Plants Of New England





## Synopsis

This comprehensive manual offers accurate, up-to-date, and clear information for identifying New England's remarkable array of tracheophytes (vascular plants, excluding mosses). With fully researched entries on some 3,500 native and nonnative species, the book is the first in decades to provide a complete and correct botanical reference for the region's noncultivated plants. The volume includes many new species not documented in New England before, while also excluding many species that have erroneously appeared in earlier manuals. Focusing on the taxonomy and distribution of New England plants, the manual is largely dedicated to identification keys and to species entries that provide scientific name, origin, regional conservation ranking, common name, synonyms, distribution, ecology, and other miscellaneous items of interest. Nearly one-third of the entries are accompanied by helpful black-and-white line illustrations. Additional special features:

- Precise distribution information, accurate to the state level
- Details on unusual plant groups not included in other sources
- Reliable and versatile keys for identification
- Tips on recognizing hybrid plants in the field
- A companion interactive teaching Web site (under development)
- Comprehensive glossary

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

• The hefty green tome offers a complete guide for identifying upward of 3,500 native and naturalized plant species currently growing roots in six Northeastern states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont)....it's a pleasure just to page

through the illustrations: black-and-white drawings that look a bit like extraterrestrial creepy-crawlies.â "Aaron Leitko, Washington Post (Aaron Leitko Washington Post)"Based on almost ten years of empirical field research by Haines (Ancestral Plants), this guide represents a comprehensive update to and revision of significantly outdated and inaccurate subject research. . . . Stunning, margin-bound scientific drawings by Farnsworth and Morrison beautifully clarify the written descriptions. . . . Recommended for botanists and extremely knowledgeable enthusiasts."â "Library Journal" (Library Journal 2012-02-09)

Arthur Haines is research botanist, New England Wild Flower Society, and curator, Delta Institute of Natural History Herbarium. He lives in Bowdoin, ME. Elizabeth Farnsworth is senior research ecologist, New England Wild Flower Society, and a widely published scientific illustrator and writer. She lives in Royalston, MA. Gordon Morrison is a prize-winning freelance artist, writer, and naturalist and illustrator of many children's books and natural history guides, including Bald Eagle, Pond, Newcomb's Wildflower Guide, and A Field Guide to Eastern Forests. He lives in Royalston, MA. New England Wild Flower Society, based in Framingham, MA, is the oldest plant conservation organization in North America.

This is really a listing of New England plants well keyed. Descriptions are not very detailed once you leave the key and go to the description. One should be knowledgeable about plants in order to profit from this compendium. As we have often heard "it is easier to key a plant if its identity is known in advance".

While this guide has proven useful for me in Rhode Island, the more I use it the more I am getting frustrated with the keys. When I first started using this guide I was stumbling through (unnecessary) terminology. Voss and Reznicek have demonstrated that quality keys can be made without superfluous terminology in the Field Manual of Michigan Flora. Once I learned most of the terminology (not always a bad thing to learn such things), I still found myself stumbling through keys and backtracking. I can usually get to the right plant (eventually) but on a few occasions I have given up with this field guide and tried another... with which I find my plant quickly. Keys within genera seem to be fine for the most part, but the keys to the families is where I have trouble. For example, Cistaceae is only accessible through group 5 (woody plants with alternate leaves)... but *Crocanthemum canadense* is an herbaceous plant and thus cannot be keyed to the correct family. As another example, I was keying out *Lobelia dortmanna*, and in the key to the families

Campanulaceae was under a heading something along the lines of 'not usually found in water'. Of course I went with the other heading, as my specimen was clearly growing in the water. These are the types of things I do NOT want in a field guide. On the positive side: the keys to varieties and subspecies are nice, I like the illustrations, and the Poaceae key is pretty good. TL;DR: Spend way too much time fumbling around in the keys, while other field guides tend to get me to the right plant without issue.

Arthur Haines' *Flora Novae-Angliae* is the culmination of years of painstaking herbarium and field research on the distribution and taxonomy of higher plants in New England. It represents the latest thinking on the systematics of over 3400 species that occur in the six-state region, however it is very useful throughout the entire Northeast. The keys are deliberative and exacting, focusing on subtle differences that separate the species, sub-species and varieties, as well as the many hybrids found across certain species groups. Although non-diagnostic features are not described, these can be accessed in previous, out-dated floras that we have been limping along with for many years. Kudos to Arthur and his team at the New England Wildflower Society, notably Elizabeth Farnsworth and Gordon Morrison, their outstanding illustrators!

This book is up-to-date from nomenclatural standpoint. The description of editorial policies is among the best in any regional flora. The coverage includes the part of New York State where I will mainly use it, the Adirondacks.

This is the book used by botanists these days, supplanting those by Ahles and Fernald. Weighs a lot. Useful illustrations.

If you live in New England and you enjoy identifying plants, then this is a great book for you.

Comprehensive and up to date

Good Flora of N.E.

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Flora of the Northeast: A Manual of the Vascular Flora of New England and Adjacent New York  
Foraging: A Beginners Guide To Foraging

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