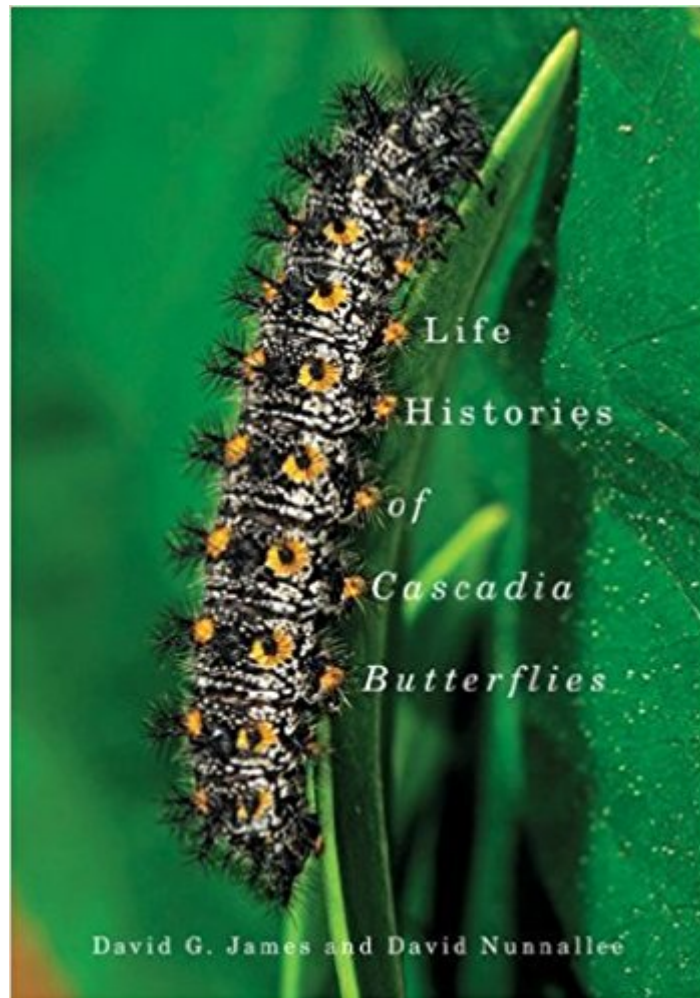




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Life Histories Of Cascadia Butterflies



Synopsis

David G. James and David Nunnallee present the life histories of the entire butterfly fauna of a geographic region in exceptional and riveting detail for the first time in North America in *Life Histories of Cascadia Butterflies*. Virtually all of the 158 butterfly species occurring in southern British Columbia, Washington, northern Idaho, and northern Oregon are included in the book. Color photographs of each stage of life--egg, every larval instar, pupa, adult--accompany information on the biology, ecology, and rearing of each species. *Life Histories of Cascadia Butterflies* will appeal to naturalists, hikers, amateur entomologists, butterfly gardeners, conservationists, students, and general readers of natural history. For scientists and dedicated lepidopterists, the book provides an unparalleled resource on the natural history of immature stages of butterflies in the Pacific Northwest--and beyond, as many of Cascadia's butterflies occur in other parts of North America as well as Europe and Asia.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The publication of James and Nunnallee, or 'the Daves' as we know them, is a matter for unreserved celebration, not only for lepidopterists and nature lovers of all stripes, but for anyone who cares about our butterflies' lives, futures, conservation management, and the plants with which they have co-evolved."--Robert Michael Pyle, author of *Mariposa Road: The First Butterfly Big Year*

A full-color guide to virtually all of the 158 butterfly species occurring in southern British Columbia,

Washington, northern Idaho, and northern Oregon in all life stages.

This book is truly an amazing accomplishment. The book is the result of a decades long effort by David James, an associate professor of entomology at Washington State University, and Seattle lepidoptrist and photographer David Nunnallee, co-founder of the Washington Butterfly Association. The Davids have managed to capture virtually all of the 158 butterfly species occurring in southern British Columbia, Washington, northern Idaho, and northern Oregon in their book. Each entry includes color photographs of the life stages -- egg, larval instars, pupa, and adult. I found the text well written and enlightening. The discussion of each species includes its plant habitat. If you are a native plant enthusiast, a butterfly enthusiast or just an ardent outdoors person, you'll find this book a great addition to your library. It will be a very long time before anything of comparable quality is available.

I'm absolutely impressed. This is one of the first butterfly guides I've found that really gives in depth details about how to raise caterpillars of each butterfly species and a comprehensive coverage of their host plants. Using this guide, I can quickly identify in the field whether a caterpillar is a butterfly or not, since I now have a frame of reference for all of the butterfly caterpillars in the Pacific NW. I usually take this book and Mr. Pyle's "The Butterflies of Cascadia" when I go out on any hiking trips. Both guides have also helped me identify the host plants I want to include in my garden to make it truly "Butterfly friendly." For instance, I had not realized how specific some of these butterfly families are to raising their children (i.e. caterpillars) on very specific host plants. Now I know that I can support most of the Fritillary family simply by planting a variety of violets in my garden. The "Life Histories" guide is particularly fun for me, since it has so many insights and identifies new opportunities of study. For instance, how do the Fritillary females locate violet plants to lay eggs on when the violets have already gone dormant? I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in butterflies. Best wishes,

Others have described why this book is a great resource: life histories, photos of many larval stages, rearing descriptions, food plants, etc. However, it should not be mistaken for a field guide: each species has only a single adult photo, typically no adult description, and no real identification path for "I found this caterpillar..." You basically need another method for identification. Then this book will fill in a lot of details that would overflow a field guide. The authors also use a peculiar definition of Cascadia: Washington state and about an hour's drive beyond. Fortunately, that extent

will get to many species in the northern American west.

I purchased this book as a reference text. I am a Master Gardener and people bring in all sorts of insect critters for ID. Full color photos and lots of pertinent info will make the task a lot easier. I recommend it if you want to learn more about butterflies/moths and want to improve your garden habitat.

Amazing book, not another like it. If you're interested in the non-adult (as well as adult) stages of butterflies in the PNW this is a must-have.

Outstanding book-just what I was looking for. Authors did a wonderful job.

Wow! This is the guide I have been waiting for and the care and effort put into it are amazing. An excellent reference for all life stages and food plants.

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