

PREFACE

Public interest in trees and forests has increased greatly in recent years. As a result of this awakening interest, numerous manuals of native trees have appeared in different sections of the country, making available to the people the technical knowledge necessary for the identification and understanding of the trees which they find around them. To date, no such manual has appeared for the Rocky Mountain region, and therefore this book has been written. It has been planned to meet the needs of trained foresters, students, and others interested in knowing the trees. Plates showing descriptive characters, distribution and zone maps, concise descriptions of botanical and silvical characters, check lists of species by states, and extensive keys have been included. Care has been taken to insure the inclusion of all native or naturalized trees within this region, and 252 species representing 85 genera and 40 families have been treated, as well as numerous varieties. Of the 129 full-page plates used in this manual, 77 are original, the work of Bruce Eastman, who graduated from the Division of Forestry of Colorado State College in 1938. These plates were prepared from herbarium material available either in the college herbarium or borrowed from the University of Wyoming. Care was taken to include the characters which would be most valuable in identification. The plates of the conifers, except those on pages 4, 20, 60, and 90, were made wholly or in part from drawings used in Sudworth's bulletins on the trees of the Rocky Mountains, with the permission of the United States Forest Service. The plates on pages 4 and 64 were used with the permission of the Oregon State Board of Forestry. The plates opposite pages 101, 107, 123, 151, 155, 157, 161, 173, 189, 191, 195, 207, 233, 263, and 277 were made from those in Otis' *Trees of Michigan*,

with the permission of the University of Michigan. The frontispiece and the plate on page 284 were used with the permission of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The descriptions of genera and species are based largely on material secured from the sources listed under the selected bibliography. Several references were used for each species and the characters carefully checked to insure that no errors were carried into the descriptions. Additional material, not available in these references, was gathered through study of herbarium material and through correspondence or conversation with the following men who generously cooperated in giving needed characters or opinions for numerous species:

Dr. F. A. Barkley, Montana State University; W. A. Dayton, Senior Forest Ecologist, United States Forest Service; L. N. Goodding, Soil Conservation Service, Albuquerque, N. M.; Dr. I. T. Haig and staff, Division of Silvics, United States Forest Service; Dr. R. E. Mc Ardle and staff, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; Dr. Aven Nelson, University of Wyoming; F. C. W. Pooler, Regional Forester, Albuquerque, N. M.; Professor E. C. Smith, Colorado State College, Dr. J. J. Thornber, University of Arizona; Dr. Ivar Tidestrom, Catholic University; A. Upson and staff, Southwestern Forest and Range Experiment Station; S. N. Wyckoff and staff, Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station.

The descriptions include not only the botanical characters of the species, but also silvical characters such as habitat, tolerance, roots, enemies, reproduction, and associates.

Extreme care was taken to make the maps showing distribution as accurate as possible in the light of our present information. All of the references in the selected bibliography were used in drawing up the original maps. These were then photostated and separate sets sent to

each of the following individuals who kindly made such corrections or additions as he saw fit and returned them:

W. A. Dayton, Senior Forest Ecologist, United States Forest Service; L. N. Goodding, Soil Conservation Service, Albuquerque, N. M.; Dr. I. T. Haig and staff, Division of Silvics, United States Forest Service; Dr. R. E. Mc Ardle and staff, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station; Dr. Aven Nelson, University of Wyoming; Dr. F. Shreve, Desert Laboratory, Tucson, Arizona; Dr. J. J. Thornber, University of Arizona; A. Upson and staff, Southwestern Forest and Range Experiment Station; S. N. Wyckoff and staff, Northern Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station.

The maps were then carefully drawn into their final form on the basis of these corrections and additions.

The author also wishes to acknowledge excellent assistance in editing and preparing the manuscript from J. R. Miller, I. G. Kinghorn, R. Randall, R. C. Hall, and D. Devet.

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