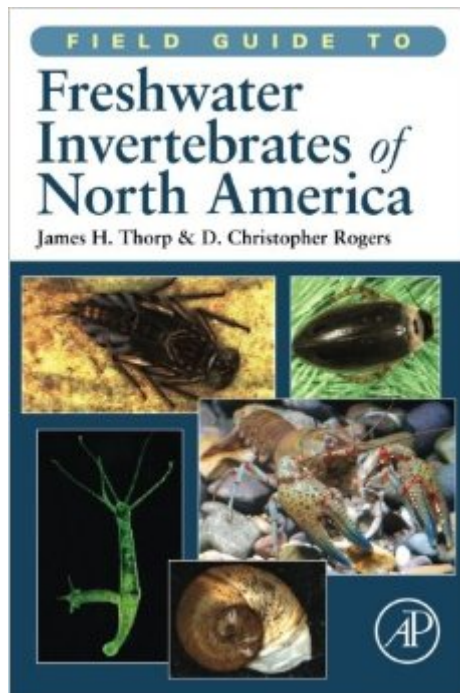


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# Field Guide To Freshwater Invertebrates Of North America (Field Guide To... (Academic Press))



## Synopsis

The Field Guide to Freshwater Invertebrates of North America focuses on freshwater invertebrates that can be identified using at most an inexpensive magnifying glass. This Guide will be useful for experienced nature enthusiasts, students doing aquatic field projects, and anglers looking for the best fish bait, lure, or fly. Color photographs and art, as well as the broad geographic coverage, set this guide apart. 362 color photographs and detailed descriptions aid in the identification of species. Introductory chapters instruct the reader on how to use the book, different inland water habitats and basic ecological relationships of freshwater invertebrates. Broad taxonomic coverage is more comprehensive than any guide currently available.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have taught several classes in aquatic insects over the years and have used the highly technical "An Introduction to the Aquatic Insects of North America" by Merritt and Cummins as a text. However there are a number of freshwater macro-invertebrates found in North America that are not insects and most people will not require the depth of the several current manuals on aquatic invertebrates, including Merritt and Cummins. That is where a pocket guide like the "Field Guide to Freshwater Invertebrates of North America," by J. H. Thorp and D. C. Rogers, finds its niche. This small book can be easily be carried into the field and serve as an introductory guide to the multitude of invertebrates species found in brook, stream, pond, river and lake. Those who would delve deeper can find several very good (if more pricy) tomes. I have a few minor quibbles in that some of

the color photos could have been better, and I was puzzled by the lack of some common genera, such as *Hydrophilus* in the Water Scavenger Beetles, or why the fishing spider was not identified as a member of the *Pisauridae* (as it is in the text), but all in all the book will serve in most cases and will certainly be more likely to be added to a backpack than the other heavy texts. I thus recommend it for any naturalist or angler who wants to gain a knowledge of the organisms in the freshwater around us and of the ecological relationships involved.

I like this book as it is more field guide on practical use can put in a knap sack and go in the field with a hand lands. Not unlike some other books which are a ton and are about 2" thick and bulky. Easy to understand for beginner no real big long scientific names all over the place. Disadvantage- This book doesn't have not all the fresh water invertebrate but the majority if you want all of them then you get the 2" thick and bulky book and hope you get to understand all the very long words in the book.

I really like the identification, photos, and additional information for the organisms included. I believe more organisms could have been added by removing some of the general information chapters about how to collect, general environments, and general ecological relationships. While this information is important, it is not particularly helpful in the field (this is advertised as a field guide). Additionally, I would never actually take this book into the field due to the type of paper used. I bought it for identification of organisms during fish stomach dissections (something that gets particularly messy); however, the light weight paper is already see-through enough, without getting anything on it. A field guide should be something that can withstand going into the field (or at least withstand a functioning ecology lab). While the guide is helpful, the final production of it is poor. This is why I only gave it three stars.

The contents of the book are fine. This is, in fact, the second copy of this book I own. I used the first so much it needs replacing. This negative review is directed at the quality of the publication, not its contents. The paper quality is poor and pages are very thin. The book actually weighs less than my previous copy. The pictures are dull and most have color printer lines running through them (almost as if an inkjet printer was used and the ink not completely refilled!). The first copy I own is on much thicker, glossier paper and photos are clear and crisp. I don't know if I got a poor copy or if the publisher started cutting back to save money... a big disappointment!

This is quite an extensive study of the underwater bugs that feed trout and other fishes and if you

are interested in learning more about them to decipher what trout eat and when these bugs are available, it's highly recommended.

It looks to be a very needed book on fresh water invertebrates. I especially like that it includes a dichotomous key for each group but the whole book is not the key! I'm just getting into the book but right off the illustrations, which are numerous, are too small in the eText and blur with very much magnification. That is disappointing. It's a small book in size so the eText could use better resolution pictures. Over all I can tell it will be a good resource though and it's priced about right.

Books on freshwater invertebrates, on the more academic level, are hard to find and generally very expensive. This book is done very well, nearly anyone can use it and it contains a great deal of useful information.

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