

BOOK REVIEWS

Geology Bibliography

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF 20TH CENTURY GEOSCIENCE AND RELATED SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE OF MICRONESIA. PART 1. MARIANA ISLAND ARC. H. G. Siegrist, Jr. Micronesian Area Research Center, University of Guam. 1992. 105 pp. Price \$9.95, hardcover.

Where could you find information about past earthquakes on Guam? You could start your search by reaching for your copy of Dr. Siegrist's *Bibliography of 20th Century Geoscience* and looking under the heading of "Geophysics and Tectonics." There you would find, among other references, Rapetti's "Catalogue of earthquakes felt in Guam, 1825-1938."

This book is an invaluable reference for anyone interested in the geology, archaeology, soils, weather, oceanography or environmental geology of Guam. The availability of this book provides an alternative to the inconvenient and expensive processes of off-island computer searches of the literature by modem, or a trip off-island to a well-stocked library. The *Selected Bibliography* will be useful especially because of the effort that was made to include the "grey literature" of reports, government contract studies, and so forth.

I used this reference to do a literature search on volcanology and igneous petrology of Pagan. *Selected Bibliography* provided me with the complete range of the types of literature I needed, from journal articles, to colloquium reports, to military maps to Ph.D. dissertations. My only recommendation for Part 2 of this volume is that it include a key to abbreviations, especially of journal titles.

Selected Bibliography of 20th Century Geoscience and Related Scientific Literature of Micronesia is a significant contribution to the community of the Mariana Islands.

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Seashore Plants

FLOWERS OF THE PACIFIC ISLAND SEASHORE: A GUIDE TO THE LITTORAL PLANTS OF HAWAII, TA-

HITI, SAMOA, TONGA, COOK ISLANDS, FIJI AND MICRONESIA. W. Arthur Whistler, Publ. Isle Botanica, 500 Univ. Ave. #1601, Honolulu 96826; Distributed by the University of Hawaii Press 2840 Kolowalu St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. 1992. ISBN: 0-8248-1528-9. 154 p. \$18.95 hardcover

This popular guide to seashore plants depicts, in color, 120 species, most of which are widely distributed in the tropical and subtropical Pacific. A previous book by the same author, *Coastal Flowers of the Tropical Pacific* (1980), contained treatments of only 65 species. A special feature is the artful juxtaposition of flowers and fruits in a single photo, which certainly helps in the identification of species.

The first fifteen pages present high islands and atolls, as well as photos of the varied seashore habitats and descriptions of these specialized areas. A checklist (Table 1) locates the species by island groups, and also provides information about the endemic, indigenous and introduced status of those species.

The plants depicted are arranged alphabetically by genus under the major categories of Trees, Shrubs, Herbs, Vines and Grasses and Sedges. Information includes an "English name" as well as local names (for each island group). A readable, botanical description is adjacent to each photo, and the rest of the page discusses distribution, habitat preference and uses of the plant and its parts. A centimeter scale is provided along the outside back cover (and dust jacket), so that measurements can be checked with the specimen in hand.

The book concludes with a botanical glossary, a selected group of references, and two indices—one to scientific names and the other, to common names. The book is stitched and hardbound, which enhances its use in field conditions.

My only objections to this book are that plants in the same family are not shown together, and that the authors of the scientific names are not given. Listing plants alphabetically does make searching for genera easier, however! Many scientific journals now require the author(s) names to be used, so the entomologist with interests in determining the name of a host plant would have to find the plant here and then check elsewhere

to learn its author(s). Both of these objections are relatively unimportant in view of the clarity of the photos and the wealth of other information provided by this small, handsome field guide. The price should make this book easily available for individuals, schools and libraries, and I certainly

recommend it to all Pacific islanders and people with interests in islands, generally.

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