

Recent Ecology and Environmental Studies - March 2021

Southeast Asia Head Office  
Blk 231, Bain Street  
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex  
Singapore 180231  
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204  
Fax : +65-6883-2144  
info@marymartin.com  
www.marymartin.com

South Asia Head Office  
8/123, Third Street,  
Tatabad, Coimbatore 641012  
India  
Tel : +91-422-2499030/2495780  
Fax : +91-422-2495781  
info@marymartin.com  
www.marymartin.com

Pollinators, Predators and Parasites : The Ecological Roles of Insects in Southern Africa / Clarke Scholtz, Jenny Scholtz & Hennie de Klerk (Ed) Marthina Mossmer  
Struik Nature, Cape Town, South Africa 2021

448p.  
Includes Index  
9781775845553  
\$ 70.00 / HB  
2190 gm.

Pollinators, parasites, predators, decomposers – insects arguably play the most important roles in the functioning of the Earth's ecosystems.

This lavishly illustrated and highly authoritative book is structured around southern Africa's 13 distinct biomes; it

- . reflects the essential role insects play in most ecological processes such as pollination, predation, parasitism, soil modification and nutrient recycling;
- . details how they serve as food for multitudes of other organisms, including bacteria and fungi, as well as specially adapted plants, insect-feeding arthropods, reptiles, birds and mammals;
- . depicts the insects and phenomena described in some 1,600 photographs that accompany the accessible text;
- . highlights the crucial role insects play as ecosystem service providers, giving intimate insight into the beauty and importance of insects in the natural world.
- . includes a guide to each of the 25 insect orders found in southern Africa, with images showing their diagnostic characters.

This key publication detailing the latest research in the field of entomology will appeal to academics and nature enthusiasts alike.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=754734>

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Australian Weevils: (Coleoptera: Curculionoidea) IV / Overprieler, Rolf G.

CSIRO Publishing, Australia 2020

664 pages  
9780643051485  
\$ 179.99 / HB  
1920 gm.

An introduction to the large weevil subfamily Entiminae (broad-nosed weevils) of Australia, including an overview of the morphological features of the subfamily and key to all 12 tribes of Entiminae in Australia

Australian Weevils: Volume IV covers the 11 smaller tribes of the weevil subfamily Entiminae (broad-nosed weevils), which comprises more than 100 genera and 700 described species in Australia. Around half of this fauna is covered in Volume IV, featuring keys to all the tribes, genera and described species as well as updated concepts and diagnoses of the tribes and summarising accounts of the taxonomy, nomenclature, distribution and known hostplants of all the genera and species.

All the introduced species of Entiminae in Australia, most of which are regarded as agricultural or horticultural pests, are included, as are descriptions of 12 new genera and eight new species and identifications of about another 240 undescribed species.

The book also includes an overview of the salient characters of the Entiminae, illustrated on 18 colour plates of diagnostic features needed for identifying these weevils, alongside a further 180 colour plates illustrating the habitus and genitalia of all the genera and of several other species and their diagnostic characters. The volume further includes an obituary and full publication list of the late Elwood C. Zimmerman as well as an updated list of recent literature on the Australian Entiminae and other weevils. The book is an essential reference work for researchers and students working with entimine weevils both in Australia and abroad.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750222>

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The Handbook of New Zealand Mammals / Carolyn M King (editor)

CSIRO Publishing, Australia 2021

27cm

9781486306282

\$ 160.00 / HB

2155 gm.

This is the only definitive reference on all the land-breeding mammals recorded in the New Zealand region (including the New Zealand sector of Antarctica). It lists 65 species, native and exotic, wild and feral, living and extinct, residents, vagrants and failed introductions. It describes their history, biology and ecology, and brings together comprehensive and detailed information gathered from widely scattered sources or hitherto unpublished. The description of each species is arranged under standardised headings for easy reference. The contributors are all leading authorities in mammal science in New Zealand, and all have studied in the field the species they describe. Because the only native land-breeding mammals in New Zealand are bats and seals, the great majority of the modern mammal fauna comprises introduced species, whose arrival has had profound effects, both for themselves and for the native fauna and flora. Each species account emphasises the ecological effects of the introductions. For the natives, changes in numbers and distribution; and for the arrivals, changes in habitat, diet, numbers, and size in comparison with their ancestral stocks, and some of the problems they present to resource managers, are all summarised. For this Third Edition, the texts and references have been completely updated and reorganised into Family chapters. The colour section includes 14 pages of artwork showing all the species described and their main variations, plus two pages of maps.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750210>

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Dingo Bold : the life and death of K'gari dingoes / Rowena Lennox

Sydney University Press , Australia 2021

xiii, 375 pages : illustrations (black and white), maps ; 21 cm

9781743327319

\$ 34.99 / null

330 gm.

Dingo Bold is a thought-provoking exploration of the relationship between people and dingoes. At its heart is Rowena Lennox's encounter with a dingo on the beach on K'gari (Fraser Island), a young male she nicknames Bold. Struck by this experience, and by the intense, often polarised opinions expressed in public conversations about dingo conservation and control, she sets out to understand the complex relationship between humans and dingoes. Weaving together ecological data, interviews with people connected personally and professionally with K'gari's dingoes, and Lennox's expansive reading of literary, historical and scientific accounts, Dingo Bold considers what we know about the history of relations between dingoes and humans, and what preconceptions shape our attitudes today. Do we see dingoes as native wildlife or feral dogs? Wild or domesticated animals? A tourist attraction or a threat? And how do our answers to these questions shape our interactions with them?

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750227>

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Enter the animal : cross-species perspectives on grief and spirituality / Teya Brooks Pribac

Sydney University Press , Australia 2021

x, 281 pages , : illustrations ; 21 cm

9781743327395

\$ 39.99 / null

330 gm.

Historically, grief and spirituality have been jealously guarded as uniquely human attributes. Although nonhuman animal grief has been acknowledged in recent times, the potency of the feeling has not been recognised as equal to human grief. Both academic and popular discussions continue to be tainted by anthropocentric philosophical questions.

In Enter the Animal, Teya Brooks Pribac examines what we do and don't know about grief and spirituality. She explores the growing body of knowledge about attachment and loss and how they shape human and non-human animals' experiences. A valuable addition to the vibrant interdisciplinary conversation about animal subjectivity, Enter the Animal identifies conceptual and methodological approaches that have contributed to the prejudice against nonhuman animals. It offers a compelling theoretical base for the consideration of grief and spirituality across species and highlights important ethical implications for how humans treat other animals.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750226>

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The climate cure : solving the climate emergency in the era of COVID-19 / Tim Flannery

Text Publishing Company, Australia 2020

205 pages ; 24 cm

9781922330352

\$ 25.00 / null

300 gm.

Emergencies test governments, organisations and individuals. Although Australia's prompt, science-led response to COVID-19 has not been perfect, it has saved tens of thousands of lives. But for decades, governments have ignored, ridiculed or understated the advice of scientists on the climate emergency. Now, in the wake of the megafires of 2020, a time of reckoning has arrived. In The Climate Cure renowned climate scientist Tim Flannery takes aim at those responsible for the campaign of obfuscation and denial that has already cost so many Australian lives and held back action on climate change. Flannery demands a new approach, based on the nation's response to COVID-19, that will lead to effective government policies. The Climate Cure is an action plan for our future. We face a fork in the road, and must decide now between catastrophe and survival.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756153>

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Secretive slime moulds : myxomycetes of Australia / Steven L. Stephenson ; editor Tony Orchard

CSIRO Publishing, Australia 2021

vi, 375 pages : colour illustrations ; 25 cm

9781486314133

\$ 180.00 / HB

1150 gm.

Neither plants, nor animals, nor fungi, the myxomycetes are a surprisingly diverse and fascinating group of organisms. They spend the majority of their life out of sight as single-celled amoeboid individuals in leaf litter, soil or decaying wood, foraging for bacteria and other simple life forms. However, when conditions are right, two individual cells come together to give rise to a much larger, creeping structure called a plasmodium, which produces even more complex and often beautiful fruiting bodies. Indeed, the fruiting bodies of myxomycetes are often miniature works of art!

Their small size (usually only a few millimetres tall) and fleeting fruiting phase mean that these organisms, although ubiquitous and sometimes abundant, are overlooked by most people. However, recent research by a few dedicated individuals has shown that Australia has a very diverse myxomycete biota with more than 330 species, the largest number known for any region of the Southern Hemisphere.

This comprehensive monograph provides keys, descriptions and information on the known distribution for all of these species in addition to containing introductory material relating to their biology and ecology. Many species are illustrated, showing the diversity of their fruiting bodies, and greatly facilitating their identification.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756135>

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Earth Cries / foreword by Kruszelnicki, Dr. Karl

Sydney University Press , Australia 2021

293 pages

9781742104768

\$ 29.95 / null

440 gm.

Climate change is here, and how we react in the present will alter the course of the future; we can no longer deny that this is a key challenge for our times. Over the past two years, Australia has seen its worst bushfire season in recorded history, extreme floods and a global pandemic that brought about a renewed appreciation of nature.

The contributors to this anthology tell powerful stories of devastation and hope. From chilling predictions of the future, to tree conservation movements in India, to an exchange between Siri and Alexa on environmental sustainability, writers and artists from the Sydney University community have come together to give voice to experiences of climate change, nature and the environment.

It's never been more important to keep the conversation alive.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756451>

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Animal Welfare in China / Li, Peter J.

Sydney University Press , Australia 2021

378 pages

9781743324707

\$ 39.99 / null

410 gm.

The plight of animals in China has attracted intense interest in recent times. Speculation about the origins of COVID-19 has sparked curiosity about how animals are treated, traded and consumed in China today.

In *Animal Welfare in China*, Peter Li explores the key animal welfare challenges facing China now, including animal agriculture, bear farming, and the trade and consumption of exotic wildlife, dog meat, and other controversial products. He considers how Chinese policymakers have approached these issues and speaks with activists from China's growing animal rights movement

Li also offers an overview of the history of animal welfare in China, from ancient times through the enormous changes of the 20th and 21st centuries. Some practices that are today described as 'traditional', he argues, are in fact quite recent developments, reflecting the contemporary pursuit of economic growth rather than long-standing cultural traditions.

Based on years of fieldwork and analysis, *Animal Welfare in China* makes a compelling case for a more nuanced and evidence-based approach to these complex issues.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756558>

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*Beyond climate grief : a journey of love, snow, fire and an enchanted beer can* / Jonica Newby

NewSouth Publishing, Sydney NSW 2021

235 pages ; 24 cm

9781742236834

\$ 29.99 / null

345 gm.

How do we find courage when climate change overwhelms us emotionally? In this magical, often funny and deeply moving personal story, award-winning science reporter Jonica Newby explores how to navigate the emotional turmoil of climate change. After researching what global warming will do to the snow country she loves, Newby plummeted into a state of profound climate grief. And if she was struggling, she wondered, how was everyone else coping? What should parents tell their anxious kids? How might we all live our best lives under the weight of this fearsome knowledge? Then reality outstripped imagination as her family was swept up in the apocalyptic 2020 fires. Featuring illuminating conversations with singer-songwriter Missy Higgins, comedians Charlie Pickering and Craig Reucassel and business leader Mike Cannon-Brookes, practical advice from psychological and scientific experts, incredible accounts from everyday heroes, plus inspiring stories from the climate strike kids, *Beyond Climate Grief* provides guidance and emotional sustenance to help shore up courage for the uncertainties ahead. It reminds us of the love, beauty and wonder in the world, even amidst disaster. And how we all have a touch of epic hero in us.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756569>

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*Flames of extinction : the race to save Australia's threatened wildlife* / John Pickrell

NewSouth Publishing, Sydney NSW 2021

viii, 280 pages, 16 unnumbered pages of plates : colour illustrations, maps ; 24 cm

9781742237169

\$ 29.99 / null

420 gm.

Over Australia's 2019-20 Black Summer bushfire season, scientists estimate that more than three billion native animals were killed or displaced. Many species -- koalas, the regent honeyeater, glossy black cockatoo, the platypus -- are inching towards extinction at the hands of mega-blazes and the changing climate behind them. In *Flames of Extinction*, award-winning science writer John Pickrell investigates the effects of the 2019-2020 bushfires on Australian wildlife and ecosystems. Journeying across the firegrounds, Pickrell explores the stories of creatures that escaped the flames,, the wildlife workers who rescued them, and the conservationists, land managers, Aboriginal rangers, ecologists and firefighters on the front line of the climate catastrophe. He also reveals the radical new conservation methods being trialled to save as many species as possible from the very precipice of extinction.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=756554>

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A Review of Garden Bird Watch (2015-2019) / Low Bing Wen (et al.)

National Parks Board, Singapore 2020

140p. ; color illustrations ; maps ; 25cm.

9789811464904

\$ 35.00 / null

438 gm.

This book is a review of the results and trends of birds spotted over the past five years, contributed by NParks' over 1,100 dedicated citizen scientists who have participated in Garden Bird Watch from 2015 to 2019. These surveys help us to understand if our habitat enhancement and restoration efforts are benefiting our garden birds. This is the first book in Singapore that shows the distribution of specific birds across many of Singapore's parks, gardens, and other green spaces. Fifty species encountered during the Garden Bird Watch surveys from 2015 to 2019 are highlighted, showing the number of individuals observed per survey round, and a map with the distribution of the species across the various survey sites. This will act as a useful resource for budding naturalists and citizen scientists in the identification and documentation of birds that they spot.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=750635>

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Gaps and Opportunities in ASEAN's Climate Governance / Sharon Seah and Melinda Martinus

ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore 2021

40p.

ISSN: 0219-3213 : 9789814951593

\$ 9.00 / null

80 gm.

Although climate-linked impacts on ASEAN's economy, increasing vulnerability to severe weather, and interlinkages to transboundary haze, health, security and marine pollution are evident, a recent survey by the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute reveals that Southeast Asians are ambivalent about ASEAN's effectiveness in tackling climate change.

All ASEAN Member States (AMS) are fully committed to accelerating reductions to global emissions under the Paris Agreement and demonstrate political will to set up intersectoral climate governance on renewable energy transition, agriculture and food security, forest and land use protection, disaster risk management, conservation on biodiversity, among many other measures.

Under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) pillar, the ASEAN Ministerial Meetings on the Environment (AMME) and the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on the Environment (ASOEN) meet annually to discuss environment-related issues, including climate change. The ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC), one of seven technical working groups reporting to the ASOEN, is tasked to enhance regional cooperation on climate change, promote collaboration between sectoral bodies, and articulate ASEAN's concerns and priorities at the international level.

Climate change issues have become cross-cutting and involve various ASEAN sectoral bodies. The AWGCC's role, however, is still limited to the environmental mandate.

ASEAN needs to establish a super coordinating body on climate change that can ensure information sharing across ASEAN bodies, convene support from dialogue partners, and engage with civil society organizations. The ASEAN Coordinating Council Working Group on Public Health Emergencies (ACCWG-PHE) model established during the COVID-19 crisis can serve as a precedent.

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