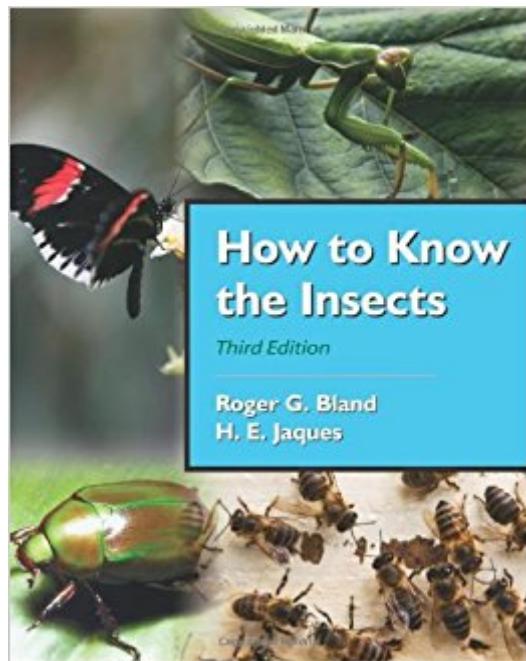


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# How To Know The Insects



## **Synopsis**

Students of entomology at every level need to be able to identify and classify the insects they study. How to Know the Insects has helped generations of readers learn to do just that. The key to insect orders the largest section of the book uses both written text and myriad illustrations to provide identification details down to the family level as well as for common species of each family. In addition, Bland and Jaques provide accounts of insect natural history, the basic biology of each order and of most families, and extensive material in finding, collecting, and preserving insects. The handbook serves as a valuable learning tool or reference for undergraduate and graduate students of entomology, science educators, insect collectors, and anyone interested in the diversity of insects. Title of related interest from Waveland Press: Pedigo-Rice, Entomology and Pest Management, 6E (ISBN 9781478622857).

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I bought this book for my summer Etomology class. It is a very helpful book when you are trying to identify insects, however some of the insect characteristics are hard to see in the diagrams compaired to the real insect. A dissecting microscope is strongly recommended when using this book, since most of the characteristics deal with segments on the legs or antennae, as well as wing veins. These structures hare very hard to see with the naked eye. If a mistake is made in classification it is easy to back track and find your mistake, becuase each step has the number of the previous step. This book also gives you a good description of the insect's charachteristics, habitat, and other usefull information to verify the insect being classified. With this book I was able

to classify all of my insects for my collection. I did need some help from the professor and the proctor, however most was just to double check myself. I also used the Peterson's Insect Guide to double check my classification. If you are looking for a book to identify insects for a collection, I strongly recommend this one. However, if you need a book for quick identification in the field, this isn't the best book for that purpose. For field purposes use a insect field guide.

I have owned a copy of this book for many years and consider it to be the best classification guide available for undergraduates and serious amateur collectors. An index\glossary provides hundreds of terms related to external morphology that can be memorized and the identification procedure is both simple and efficient. There are plenty of detailed illustrations. The only downside is that this book has not been revised in many years. It most likely contains errors, because systematics is an ever-changing field. Most of it is accurate, however, and any serious insect collector can compensate for the outdated information by visiting a public library or museum. This book is probably out of print. Get it now!

I've gotten interested in insects just because of my own curiosity but wanted to learn a bit about their Families and species so I picked up this book (recommended by a teacher of a naturalist class on insects). It is an incredibly complete book with excellent drawings, discussions of common species, easy to understand layout of orders and families without getting toooooo technical. Just what I needed to get my feet wet in being able to id and learn about specific insects I come across in the garden and elsewhere.

This is an easy-to-use key for adults to the family level, and within the family it lists a few common species, their characteristics and where they may be found. Nicely illustrated with line drawings to show the structures used in the key. Then it has line drawings of a few representative species. Early chapters describe collecting techniques, and how to make and mount a collection.

As an amateur entomologist this is the best dichotomous key I have found. Simple to follow and easy to understand yet complex enough to accurately key out to the order and often farther than that!

Just the book for identifying unknown insects in your garden. It does not go into sub-adult stages at all though, so don't expect to identify larvae or nymphs. Very good book.

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