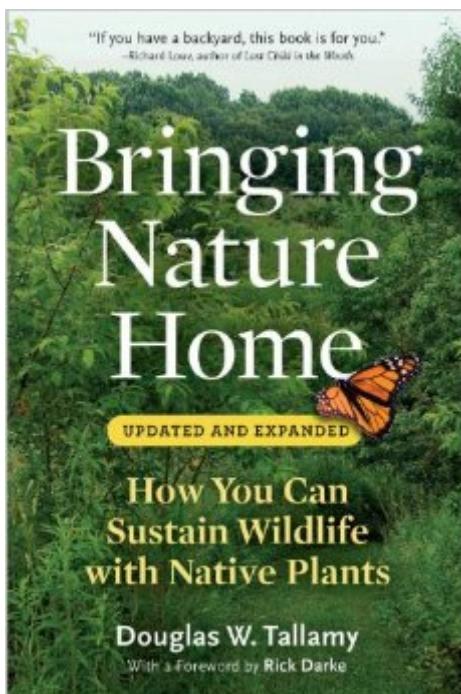


The book was found

Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife With Native Plants, Updated And Expanded



Synopsis

â œlf you cut down the goldenrod, the wild black cherry, the milkweed and other natives, you eliminate the larvae, and starve the birds. This simple revelation about the food webâ "and it is an intricate web, not a chainâ "is the driving force in *Bringing Nature Home*.â • â "The New York Times As development and subsequent habitat destruction accelerate, there are increasing pressures on wildlife populations. But there is an important and simple step toward reversing this alarming trend: Everyone with access to a patch of earth can make a significant contribution toward sustaining biodiversity.â There is an unbreakable link between native plant species and native wildlifeâ "native insects cannot, or will not, eat alien plants. When native plants disappear, the insects disappear, impoverishing the food source for birds and other animals. In many parts of the world, habitat destruction has been so extensive that local wildlife is in crisis and may be headed toward extinction. *Bringing Nature Home* has sparked a national conversation about the link between healthy local ecosystems and human well-being, and the new paperback editionâ "with an expanded resource section and updated photosâ "will help broaden the movement. By acting on Douglas Tallamy's practical recommendations, everyone can make a difference.

Book Information

Paperback: 360 pages

Publisher: Timber Press; Exp Upd edition (April 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881929921

ISBN-13: 978-0881929928

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsâ See all reviewsâ (272 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,215 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inâ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Landscape #2 inâ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region #4 inâ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Insects & Spiders

Customer Reviews

I heard Douglas Tallamy speak at the Native Plants in the Landscape Conference at Millersville University (PA) last June, and I've been waiting for his book to be published by Timber Press. I'm a gardener, and I don't want to grow only native plants. But this book makes me stop and think.

Douglas Tallamy makes the best case for use of native plants I've read. I recommend it without reservation. Simply put, the book's message is this. All life on earth, except for some recently discovered, relatively rare forms that take energy from volcanic vents in the ocean floor, depend on energy from the sun that plants convert into food through photosynthesis. Most of that solar energy is made available to higher life forms through insects that eat plants. With the exception of a few direct herbivores such as cows, all other higher forms of life either eat insects (most birds) or eat other animals that eat insects (hawks eating sparrows), and so on up the food chain. The productivity of an environment, literally the weight of biomass produced in a given area, is directly related to the insect population, and the variety of wildlife - number of species of birds and so on - is also directly related to the numbers and varieties of insects living there. Research now clearly shows that native insect populations cannot be sustained by most alien plants. Our insects have co-evolved with native plants over millions of years, and most have highly specific preferences for certain plants as food. As Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, Tallamy has access to research that tells a disturbing story.

This is a first-rate popular work by a mature researcher. Tallamy's arguments for using native plants in suburban gardens are convincing, often eloquent (esp. in chaps. 3 and 4). He argues that native bugs can only eat plants with which they share an evolutionary history. Our bugs just can't eat plants that have evolved in other parts of the world (i.e. alien plants). Furthermore, our birds don't feed their young on plants but can only feed their young on bugs. (This is true even if adult birds can survive on plant food alone--e.g. berries from native and alien plants alike). So bugs are necessary for bird reproduction. Therefore, as the number and diversity of native plants diminish so do the number and diversity of bugs, and, therefore, so do the number of birds since bugs are less and less available for bird reproduction. So far as reproductive nutrition is concerned, alien plants are as useful as a parking lot. Since so far as making bugs available for food, alien plants have no ecological function. What's worse, there is very little in our native ecosystem to inhibit the spread of many of these alien plants--except us! Tallamy does not leave us hanging with just a lot of bad news. To the contrary, he offers a plan for initiating a recovery in which the suburban gardener plays the central role. He celebrates the role each suburban gardener can have in restoring the habitat of native plant and animal ecosystems right in each gardener's own yard. He gave me a real excitement about creating and observing a wondrous, healthy biodiversity just outside my backdoor, a diversity much more interesting than I could ever achieve with alien plants. His hope is that this excitement could become widespread among gardeners such that suburbia and nature could

reconcile.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants, Updated and Expanded
Pollinators of Native Plants: Attract, Observe and Identify Pollinators and Beneficial Insects with
Native Plants New York Wildlife Viewing Guide: Where to Watch Wildlife (Watchable Wildlife)
Wildlife Dies Without Making A Sound: Volume 2: The Adventures of a State Wildlife Officer in the
Wildlife Wars The 4-Hour Workweek, Expanded and Updated: Expanded and Updated, With Over
100 New Pages of Cutting-Edge Content. American Wildlife and Plants: A Guide To Wildlife Food
Habits You Can't Make Me (But I Can Be Persuaded), Revised and Updated Edition: Strategies for
Bringing Out the Best in Your Strong-Willed Child Florida plants for wildlife: A selection guide to
native trees and shrubs Exit Strategy, The Employee Stock Ownership Plan Can Sustain and
Secure the Company's Future Without You Wildlife Painting Step by Step (Leading wildlife artists
show you how to capture the spirit of animal life in all mediums) Bringing German to Life: Creative
activities for 5-11 (Bringing Languages to Life) The Complete Guide to Nature Photography:
Professional Techniques for Capturing Digital Images of Nature and Wildlife Rocky Mountain
Wildlife Nature Activity Book (Nature Activity Book Series) Wildlife Calendar - Tiger Calendar - Lion
Calendar - Elephant Calendar - Monkey Calendar - Calendars 2016 - 2017 Wall Calendars - Animal
Calendar - African Wildlife 16 Month Wall Calendar by Avonside Bear in the Back Seat II:
Adventures of a Wildlife Ranger in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park: Smokies Wildlife
Ranger Book 2 Home Staging for Beginners 2nd Edition: Learn Tips and Tricks on How Home
Staging Can Get You the Top Dollar When You Sell Your Home! Home Staging for Profit: How to
Start and Grow a Six Figure Home Staging Business in 7 Days or Less OR Secrets of Home
Stagers Revealed So Anyone Can Start a Home Based Business and Succeed Keepers of the
Animals: Native American Stories and Wildlife Activities for Children Native Trees of the Midwest:
Identification, Wildlife Value, and Landscaping Use Gardening Projects for Kids: Fantastic ideas for
making things, growing plants and flowers, and attracting wildlife to the garden, with 60 practical
projects and 500 photographs

[Dmca](#)