BOOK REVIEW

NATIVE AMERICAN FORAGE PLANTS


The title of this book is much broader than its content, as practically all of the plants described are those of the western half of the United States and of these a goodly number are not truly native, that is endemic. Chapters I to IV, pages 1 to 85, deal respectively with the following topics: Pasture Forage and Animal Nutrition; How Plants Live, Grow and Reproduce; Environment of Range and Pasture Plants and Forces that Influence them; Classification, Collection and Preservation of Plant Specimens. These chapters are apparently intended primarily as an aid to the public clientele, namely the ranchmen. The remainder of the book consists entirely of descriptions and economic data of the many western range plants on which domestic animals feed, together with a list of those avoided or rarely eaten and incidental mention of those with poisonous properties. This portion of the book brings together much information found only in many scattered papers together with a mass of new data based on the author's extensive studies. For each of the more important species a photographic illustration of the plant together with a map showing its range is provided. A great number of new "common" names for the plants are proposed, mostly translations of the scientific names. The book will prove most useful to all students of western range plants, and should be very helpful to ranchmen who desire better knowledge of the plants which sustain their herds and flocks. C. V. Piper,