A FIELD GUIDE TO THE ANTS OF NEW ENGLAND. *By Aaron M. Ellison, Nicholas J. Gotelli, Elizabeth J. Farnsworth, and Gary D. Alpert. New Haven (Connecticut): Yale University Press.* $29.95 (flexibound). xvii + 398 p.; ill.; index. ISBN: 978-0-300-16930-0. 2012.

In 1977, I enrolled in an ant taxonomy course with one of this book's coauthors (Alpert). E. O. Wilson, our sponsor and mentor, began by introducing us to the apostles of myrmecology, each immortalized in framed photographs proudly displayed on the walls of the "Ant Room" in Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology. After an inspirational and sometimes sentimental discourse, we were left in the company of roughly a million specimens, our own collections of pinned and pickled ants in need of names, and the challenges of decoding Creighton's *Ants of North America* (1950. Cambridge (MA): Museum of Comparative Zoology). We slogged through keys, the going often tough. Today, *A Field Guide to the Ants of New England* fortunately offers user-friendly instruction to provide an introduction to the classification and biology of the 130-plus species in southern Canada, eastern New York, and the New England states.

Unlike most books of the genre, this volume has multiple authors, who have combined their diverse experience to produce a concise and effective guide. The two lead authors, Ellison and Gotelli, are renowned community, ecosystem, and climate change ecologists, and statistical modelers whose work has featured ants. Farnsworth is a plant physiological ecologist, conservation biologist, and an author of guidebooks. Alpert's research on global ant diversity emphasizes the faunas of the southwest U.S., Madagascar, and the Philippines; he has been a frequent instructor in the Ant Course sponsored by the California Academy of Sciences and Museum of Comparative Zoology. The authors merge their abilities as evolutionary, ecological, and behavioral biologists with their own taxonomic training and encounters with ants to instruct readers how to find what they are looking for and identify what they have found, aided by extensive line drawings, distribution maps, high-resolution digital images, and quality color photographs from their own portfolios. Couplets on the inside of the cover and first and last pages, printed on heavy-duty paper for durable field use, enable quick sorting of ants, first by worker body size, to identify genera, which are separated by color-coded tabs. The authors provide common names for each species, brief descriptions of habitat and natural history, and how to distinguish "look-alike" species with character illustrations. A well-researched chapter on biogeography and resource references closes the book. All well and good, but *do the keys work*? The outlook is promising: the authors acknowledge training by Stefan Cover and André Francoeur, as well as input from preeminent ant taxonomist James Trager, among other knowledgeable contributors, and ensure the keys have been professionally test-driven and serviced before publication.

This book will undoubtedly benefit naturalists and researchers in need of an introduction to the ant fauna of the northeast. The increasing use of ants to monitor climate change and ecosystem health as well as the general use of ants as models is creating demands for ant identification by researchers, paraprofessionals, and citizen scientists, and this helpful volume will serve these needs. *A Field Guide to the Ants of New England* appears to be destined to be known, at least in myrmecological circles, as the "New England Bible."

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COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF FISHES FROM THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, AND MEXICO. *Seventh Edition. American Fisheries Society Special Publication, Volume 34.*

By Lawrence M. Page, Héctor Espinosa-Pérez, Lloyd T. Findley, Carter R. Gilbert, Robert N. Lea, Nicholas E. Mandrak, Richard L. Mayden, and Joseph S. Nelson. Bethesda (Maryland): American Fisheries Society. $60.00. ix + 384 p.; index. ISBN: 978-1-934874-31-8. [Written in English, Spanish, and French.] 2013.

BIOLOGY OF SHARKS AND THEIR RELATIVES. *Second Edition. CRC Marine Biology Series.*

Edited by Jeffrey C. Carrier, John A. Musick, and Michael R. Heithaus. Boca Raton (Florida): CRC Press (Taylor & Francis Group). $99.95. xvi + 633 p. + 16 pl.; ill.; index. ISBN: 978-1-4398-3924-9. 2012.

The second edition of this highly informative book follows the sequence and chapter outline of the first edition. Many of the chapters are updates of those published in 2004, with a few noteworthy additions, all in a larger format. Hence, there is more information packed into this second edition. As with the previous edition, this volume is a state-of-the-art compendium on shark (and ray and chimaera) biology, ecology, life history, physiology, and systematics; there are 19 chapters in all. Many new coauthors were added, two chapters are entirely new (on elasmobranch systematics based on mitochondrial genes by Naylor et al., and on new tagging techniques as related to elasmobranch biology by Whitney et al.), while two topics previously covered are partially integrated into other chapters (homeostasis) or not included in the second edition (elasmobranch zoogeography).