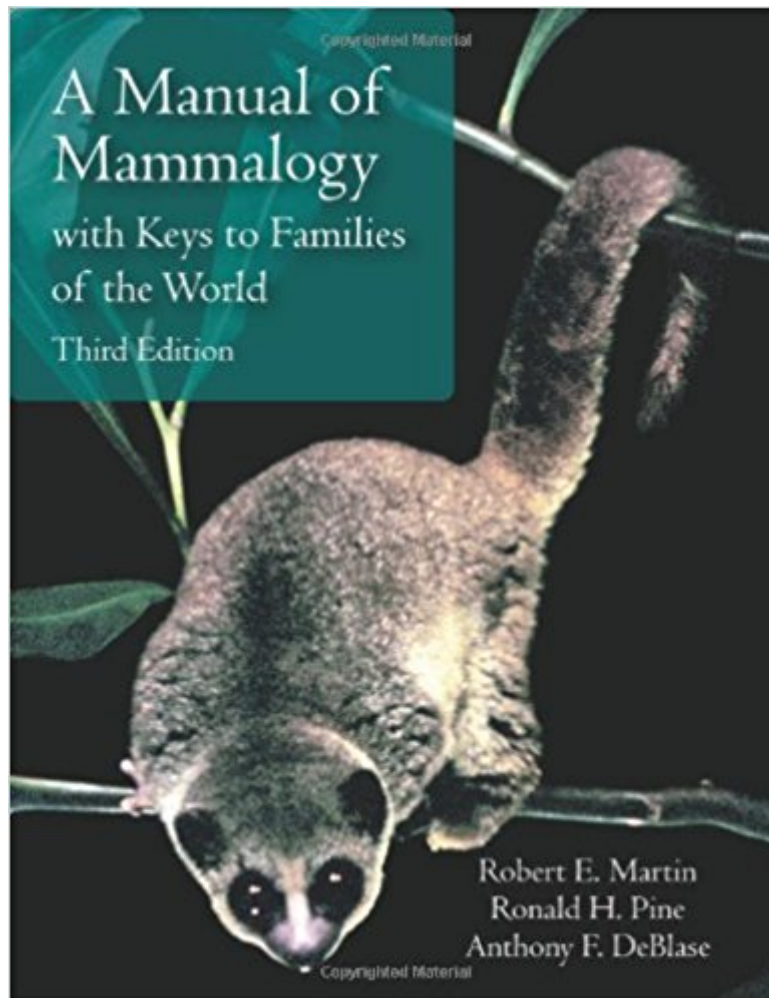




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A Manual Of Mammalogy: With Keys To Families Of The World



Synopsis

Refined in detail through three editions, the manual's outstanding features include: an explanation of keys and how to use them; the inclusion of keys designed to identify by order or family extant mammals of the world; special sections containing comments and suggestions on identification; information on working with map coordinates and global positioning receivers; coverage of the use of computer programs to get estimates of home-range size and characteristics; and ideas for locating reliable, authoritative literature on mammals. A section on techniques for studying mammals in the field and in the laboratory rounds out this student-friendly learning tool. Beautifully wrought illustrations and diagrams accurately portray visual details of mammal groups or characteristics that are unavailable to study in person. Moreover, well-designed laboratory exercises provide opportunities to apply knowledge and master understanding.

Table of Contents Introduction / The Skull / Teeth / The Integument / Horns and Antlers / The Postcranial Skeleton / Locomotor Adaptations / Keys and Keying / The Orders of Living Mammals / The Monotremes / The Marsupials / The Insectivores / The Colugos / The Bats / The Tupaiids / The Primates / The Xenarthrans: Anteaters, Armadillos, and Sloths / The Pangolins / The Carnivores / The Whales, Dolphins, and Porpoises / The Macroscelideans / The Rabbits, Hares, and Pikas / The Rodents / The Aardvark / The Subungulates / The Perissodactyls / The Artiodactyls / Sign and Habitat Analysis / Recording Data / Collecting / Specimen Preparation and Preservation / Collecting Ectoparasites of Mammals / Age Determination / Diet Analysis / Analysis of Spatial Distribution / Estimation of Abundance and Density / Literature Research

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Customer Reviews

“I am pleased you have reprinted this important lab manual. I use it every year.”
Reginald Hoyt, Delaware Valley College
“Excellent coverage.”
Graham A. J. Worthy,
University of Central Florida
“A good basic book for lab identification.”
Brian Smith,
Black Hills State University

Love this book -- so many things to learn from it! I had to purchase for my Mammalogy class in Undergrad and this book helped a lot.

Essential guide for mammalogy students.

Love this manual. Very informative, and well-written. Includes different diagrams, and great images for any species that we did not have specimens for. Excellent overall.

I will be keeping this even after my course is over! Lots of great drawings and fun facts. Helpful for labs.

Great companion to MAMMALOGY.

If you need this book for a class, I guess you have to get it. But you can do better if you really want to learn mammals. I've had my students use this book in the past in the mammal lab I teach at our university. This book has three main strengths: 1. Excellent background info on how mammals are put together. There are chapters on the skull, other bones, integument, hair, movement and locomotion, etc, that are very good. Terms are in bold and easy to find, there are plenty of figures, etc. 2. Keys to the mammal families of the world. If you have any complete mammal skull from anywhere in the world, the family key is helpful if you have no idea what it is. 3. The practical stuff: how to take skull measurements accurately, how to prepare stuffed specimens, as well as introductions to a number of field techniques (trapping, etc). While it isn't as good as doing it yourself under the instruction of an expert, it could be used to teach yourself if it had to. All that said, I don't have my students buy this text anymore. It can be kind of expensive, and I've found other texts that focus more on what I think is more important. I do still use some of the illustrations from this one in handouts and in lab material, but I have my students get two other books instead: Peterson Field Guide to Mammals of North America: Fourth Edition. I teach in North

America, and most of us want to know what's around us, maintaining a mostly-regional focus. A good field guide is the one book you shouldn't do without, and Reid's 4th edition of the Peterson guide is the best there is. For this text, do NOT get a previous edition (it sucks, and was last updated in the early 70's), or any other guide; nothing else available compares. *Mammals of North America: (Second Edition)* by Kays and Wilson isn't bad, but it doesn't give anywhere near the amount of natural history information. The other text I require is *A Key to the Skulls of North American Mammals*. It's by Thies and Glass, and is the best key for North American Mammal skulls (Note: if you don't know what a "key" is, you probably don't need one. It's an academic guide to identification). It's self-published by the authors; our campus bookstore has to order directly from the author, and you can too (I'll throw the link in the comments, since I won't let me put it here). While the book I'm reviewing here has keys to families, Thies and Glass' book identifies North American mammals to genus. That makes a big difference. And an important one, if you actually want to know what something is. It won't work on non-North American taxa, but most of us don't need to worry about that. Oh, and since I'm discussing mammals, you also want one other book. The Encyclopedia of Mammals. Yeah, you pretty much need it. The newest edition is this one, but you can often get an older edition that isn't much different, and is significantly cheaper here. Do not let the low price (often under five bucks shipped!) fool you: this book is AMAZING. Authoritative and filled with great info and images. And it's huge. Use-it-as-a-doorstop-huge. Every family should have one. Speaking of previous editions... this Manual of Mammalogy is just a 2011 reprint of the 2001 3rd edition. If you can find that one any cheaper, it's identical inside. 2nd edition and earlier aren't worth it; too outdated.

This manual is informative and comprehensive; however, it retains some old taxonomy. For example, orders Cingulata and Pilosa are still grouped under the now defunct Order Xenarthra.

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