



Caterpillars of Eastern Forests (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By David L Wagner

Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book *****
Print on Demand ******. Excerpt from Caterpillars of Eastern Forests For better and for worse, caterpillars are integral to the health of our forests. Populations of more than 20 species of eastern forest Lepidoptera may reach densities that result in the defoliation of hundreds or thousands of acres. Tannins, alkaloids, mineral spirits, latexes, spices, and many pharmaceuticals are manufactured by plants, at least in part, to deter hungry caterpillars. Caterpillars are the dietary staple of many forest mammals and birds, and without them there would be fewer songbirds to welcome each spring. Some caterpillars ingest fallen leaves, thereby hastening decomposition and soil formation. Despite these and many other roles that caterpillars play in forest ecosystems, there is but modest literature for their identification. Moreover, much of what is written is technical in nature, out of print, or focused on a single family. Our intent in preparing this guide is to enable forest managers, extension entomologists, and nonspecialists to identify many of the eastern region s most frequently encountered species. It is also our wish that this guide will promote a greater appreciation for the remarkable caterpillar biodiversity of...



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