



Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification

By Thomas J. Elpel

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Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification By Thomas J. Elpel

Botany in a Day, now available in a full-color version, is the plant identification method that thousands have used and learned.

Looking for a faster, easier, and engaging way to identify plants? Related plants have similar characteristics, and they often have similar uses. Rather than learning new plants one-at-a-time, it is possible to learn them by the hundreds, based on plant family patterns.

Each family of related plants has unique patterns for identification. Learn to recognize these patterns, and discover them again and again in the plants you encounter. It is possible to instantly recognize a plant never before seen, and in many cases, to know its edible or medicinal properties on the spot—even before you have identified it down to the species!

Botany in a Day is changing the way people learn about plants. A one-day tutorial introduces eight of the world's most common plant families, applicable to more than 45,000 species of plants. Master these eight patterns and have the skills to recognize an astonishing number of plants on any continent. Add to your repertoire by keying out entirely unknown plants and learning additional family patterns.

Botany in a Day is principally written for North America, but used and adored by readers all over the world. It is used as a textbook in numerous universities, high schools, and herbal schools. This book is widely used in nature programs and promoted in national parks. *Botany in a Day* is your passport connection to nature and discovering the amazing world of plants!

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Editorial Review

Review

"Botany in a Day presents a simplified way of identifying plants through learning the patterns in over 100 plant families." --*Ecology Action Newsletter*. Willits, California. February 2003.
(Review of the fourth edition.)

From the Publisher

A Positive Relationship with Nature

Our culture teaches us that we are separate from nature. We spend most of our lives in houses surrounded by manicured lawns, living in towns or cities where recreational activities are based on human-centered sports. Nature is something we go to a park to see, or we watch a show about it on TV.

Those of us in the field of environmental education try to preach a different message, telling people that "all life is interconnected" and that "we really are part of nature". But in the next breath we tell them to stay on the trails and to practice "no-trace" camping. We tell them to look at nature and photograph it, but not to touch it. We tell them our modern way of life is destroying nature, and that we need to stop mucking up the planet. In other words, we tell them we are part of nature--the bad part!

Here at HOPS Press, LLC we advocate a positive interactive relationship with the natural world. We want people to get involved in nature, to be a part of the process on many levels:

Through Participating in Nature: Thomas J. Elpel's Field Guide to Primitive Living Skills and the Art of Nothing Wilderness Survival Video Series, you can experience an intimate connection with nature as you rediscover the skills our ancestors used to survive for tens of thousands of years. Instead of merely camping in the wilderness or passing through it, you will become part of the process as you learn about nature by using it to meet your needs for shelter, fire, water and food. Learn to set aside the trappings of modern culture and step directly into nature with little or nothing, to experience nature on its own terms.

With Tom's book Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification, you can connect with the wonderful diversity of plants and flowers all around you in a way that you may have never imagined. Instead of seeing the green world as little more than pretty wallpaper, you will learn to know the individual plants, wildflowers and weeds as if they have been your life-long friends. Our book Shanleya's Quest: A Botany Adventure for Kids Ages 9-99 utilizes the same patterns method of identifying plants as Botany in a Day, but in a metaphorical story form where children of all ages can join young Shanleya on her journey to learn the plant traditions of her people.

In Living Homes: Integrated Design & Construction you will learn how to make your home part of nature, as well as how to make nature part of your home. Learn the secrets to building low-cost, high-efficiency homes with stone masonry, log-building and strawbale construction methods. With this book and Tom's Slipform Stone Masonry DVD/VHS Video you will be able to build your quality, earth-friendly Dream home on a budget, even while the "experts" say it isn't cost effective.

Finally, in Direct Pointing to Real Wealth: Thomas J. Elpel's Field Guide to Money, you will learn to see the economy as an ecosystem where money is a token that represents calories of energy. Learn the basic rules of this economic ecosystem and you will be empowered to use your resources to more effectively achieve your

desired quality of life, while making the world a better place to be. You will be able help convert an economy that harms planetary biodiversity into an economy that helps restore it.

From the Author

Many people are familiar with the square stems and opposite leaves of the plants in the Mint Family. I like to start my classes with a discussion of the the mints because this pattern is so well known. What people don't realize is that similar patterns exist for other families of plants as well. You only need to learn about 100 broad patterns to recognize something about virtually every plant from coast to coast across the northern latitudes.

In a two hour plant walk we typically start with the Mint Family, then progress through the Mustard, Pea, Parsley, Borage, Lily, and Aster Families, so that every student can easily recognize these common families representing several thousand species.

I've had people tell me they learned more in that two hour walk than in an entire semester of botany in college.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Saul Robinson:

Hey guys, do you would like to finds a new book to read? May be the book with the concept Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification suitable to you? The actual book was written by well known writer in this era. The actual book untitled Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification is the main one of several books that everyone read now. This kind of book was inspired a lot of people in the world. When you read this guide you will enter the new shape that you ever know before. The author explained their idea in the simple way, therefore all of people can easily to comprehend the core of this guide. This book will give you a lot of information about this world now. In order to see the represented of the world in this particular book.

Belinda Kirwin:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always aim to and must have the free time or they will get large amount of stress from both way of life and work. So , when we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification.

Martin Hobson:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, limited story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not seeking Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification that give your fun preference will be satisfied simply by reading this book. Reading practice all over the world can be said as the method for people to know world better then how they

react towards the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading behavior only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for all you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you could pick Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification become your current starter.

Marian Dyer:

As a scholar exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or even make summary for some publication, they are complained. Just very little students that has reading's heart or real their leisure activity. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to the library. They go to at this time there but nothing reading really. Any students feel that looking at is not important, boring in addition to can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important for yourself. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever we want. Likewise word says, many ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore , this Botany in a Day: The Patterns Method of Plant Identification can make you experience more interested to read.

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