



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

For Immediate Release  
February 8, 2008

## ***The Macrolichens of New England***

By James W. Hinds and Patricia L. Hinds

Published by The New York Botanical Garden Press

**New publication is the most comprehensive work of its kind  
Describes 461 species; key indicators of the health of ecosystems**

With over 600 pages lavishly illustrated with line drawings and more than 400 color photographs from 35 years of fieldwork and research by the authors, *The Macrolichens of New England* is a comprehensive and visually arresting field guide, as well as a reference book and identification manual useful at home. It summarizes what is known about the subject, including descriptions, identifications, and information on the conservation status of different species, the ecological role of lichens, geography, geology, climate, and major biogeographical zones for lichens in the region.

The volume includes:

- Descriptions of 98 genera and 461 species; an introduction to general lichen morphology;
- A glossary of terms for less experienced readers;
- Advice on collecting lichens and performing chemical tests;
- A review of the ecological role of New England lichens and the geography, geology, climate, conservation status, and major biogeographical zones for lichens in New England;
- Identification keys, both general and genus-specific, to 502 species, including the 461 New England species and 41 additional species known from adjacent states and provinces that could occur in this region; and
- Synonyms, misapplied names, common names, morphology, chemistry, worldwide range, usual substrate, distribution in New England, and comparisons with similar species.

Observers of the natural world have long been fascinated by lichens—by their exquisite beauty when seen close-up, the myriad shapes they assume, the wide range of ecosystems they inhabit, and their usefulness as an early warning system for air pollution. Most lichens are highly sensitive to air and water pollution. This new book is designed to be useful and accessible to beginners as well as to provide new information to experienced lichenologists.

Lichens can be divided into macrolichens and crustose lichens. Macrolichens are generally large enough to be noticed and are found in strikingly different growth forms, while crustose lichens (or microlichens) are usually small and closely appressed to the substrate. All the macrolichens of New England receive detailed coverage in this book, while the crustose lichens are only briefly described and are not included in the keys or descriptions.

Twenty-eight species are reported for the first time in New England. Of the 461 macrolichens known from New England, 257 (55.7%) are considered regionally rare or declining, and 20 (4.3%) are also considered globally rare or declining.

- more -

## About the Authors

James W. Hinds and Patricia L. Hinds have been interested in lichens since 1967. James is a faculty associate in the Department of Biological Science at the University of Maine. Pat has long pursued lichen photography, developing identification keys for lichens, and has organized the University of Maine's lichen collection. Before moving to Orono, Maine, in 1983, Pat worked as a research technician at Harvard Medical School and then Boston University School of Medicine, where James was a faculty member and where both were part of a research team studying the development of the mammalian central nervous system.

## About The New York Botanical Garden Press

The New York Botanical Garden Press ([www.nybgpress.org](http://www.nybgpress.org)) has one of the largest publishing programs of any independent botanical garden in the world and provides a means for communication of research carried out by scientists at The New York Botanical Garden and elsewhere. Begun in 1896, the program focuses on advances in knowledge about the classification, utilization, and conservation of plant life.

*The Macrolichens of New England* is volume 96 of the *Memoirs of The New York Botanical Garden*, a series published since 1900. The *Memoirs* include comprehensive, original research papers focusing on taxonomy and floristics with an emphasis on New World plants.

### PRODUCT DETAILS

**Price:** US \$65

**Publisher:** The New York Botanical Garden Press

**Series & Volume:** Memoirs of The New York Botanical Garden, Volume 96

**Hardcover:** 608 pages; over 400 color illustrations

**Language:** English

**ISBN:** 0-89327-477-1

**Dimensions:** 7 ¼ x 10 ¼ inches

### INQUIRIES AND ORDERS

*The Macrolichens of New England* can be purchased at The New York Botanical Garden's Shop in the Garden or online at <http://www.nybgshop.org/NYBG-Press-p-1-c-333.html>

Orders can also be placed with:

The New York Botanical Garden Press

200th Street and Kazimiroff Boulevard

Bronx, NY 10458-5126 USA

Telephone: 718.817.8721

Fax: 718.817.8842

[nybgpress@nybg.org](mailto:nybgpress@nybg.org)

###

**The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad or subway. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org)**

**The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden's general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.**

**Media Contact:** George Shakespear 718.817.8512