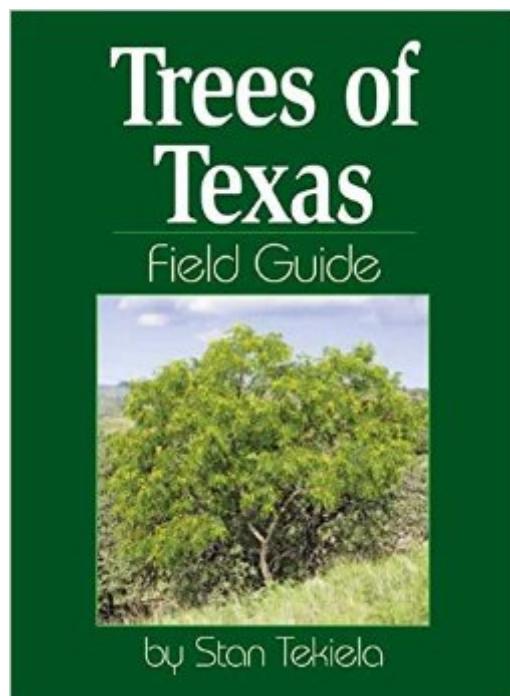


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# Trees Of Texas Field Guide (Tree Identification Guides)



## Synopsis

Trees are all around, but how much do you know about them? With this famous field guide by award-winning author and naturalist Stan Tekiela, you can make tree identification simple, informative and productive. Learn about 180 Texas trees, organized in the book by leaf type and attachment. Fact-filled information contains the particulars you want to know, while full-page photos provide the visual detail needed for accurate identification. Trees are fascinating and wonderful, and this is the perfect introduction to them.

## Book Information

Series: Tree Identification Guides

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (31 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I've gone through lots of tree books in the last year. I found this as a new addition at the local library. It was so good I ordered my own. I had told my son there were no good tree books and I was going to write my own, but Stan Tekiela has come pretty durn close with "Trees of Texas - Field Guide". It has good depth, covers all the common trees of Texas and the photos of the leaves and other identifying characteristics are the best I've seen yet. The descriptions are complete without being wordy and Stan's notes on each tree are useful and interesting. The book is well organized, by leaf characteristics, so its relatively easy to find the right page when you have no idea what sort of tree you are trying to ID. A big plus is that the book is small enough to throw in your pack or even your coat pocket. The only fault I can find is with the index. It does not have a cross index by Scientific Name and even some common names, of trees found within the book, are missing from the index.

Overall, I like this book. I meant to order one but accidentally ordered 2. I'll keep one at home and one at work. I like that it is small enough to fit in a coat pocket. It has glossy color photos with a nice sized photo of the foliage. However, there are a few things that keep me from giving it 5 stars. 1) Some of the trees do not have photos of the fruits and in some cases, I don't think the photos are typical. For example, there may be some Nuttall oak acorns that are that flat but most are elongated. The honey locust page doesn't show the fabulous thorns this species can have. The photo of the bark could easily have had thorns on it. 2) I would have appreciated a small map of Texas with the ranges. That can be such a good clue when trying to figure out what species a tree is. 3) Some of the Latin names are out of date even though it is not an old book. I know it doesn't make sense but most taxonomists now call Nuttall oak *Quercus texana* and what was *Q. texana* is now *Q. buckleyii*. 4) A key would be nice but all my requests would start making the book larger. 5) I appreciate that some common imported species are listed (Chinaberry, Chinese privet, white mulberry, etc.) However, so far, I haven't found Chinese tallowtree, possibly the most common and invasive imported tree. This book combined with "Native Trees of the Southeast: An Identification Guide" would be a good pair for most Texas tree lovers to have. Add the Audubon Field Guide and you should really be set. I require my class to buy the "Native Trees of the Southeast" book because it has a key but will start showing them this one too. I like Stan's notes and will use some of those facts in class. There is another "Trees of Texas" book by Stahl and McElvaney. It is a coffee table book and is not a useful field guide so don't accidentally get that one.

I am a tree fanatic and really enjoy identifying trees as a hobby. This book is the best field guide I have used for trees. It has great pictures and descriptions of each major tree. It also pictures flowers, seeds and barks of some trees as well. I highly recommend this book!

This is described as a "Field Guide". BUT my first copy fell apart along the spine within 4 hours - just reading it whilst sitting in a chair in the garden! was great - they had a replacement copy to me within 4 days. I was very very careful handling this one - but it too fell apart along the spine within 1 hour - whilst sitting in the same chair. (Could that be the connection?). I did not return the second copy - but rather finished pulling it apart, cutting and hole punching each page, and then binding it in a plastic ring comb. Why did I go to so much trouble and keep it when it fell apart? Quite simply the content is very very good. Great photographs with well structured and laid out material. I was able to use it to positively identify 6 different trees in my own and my neighbours gardens without too much difficulty. Hopefully when I do take it with me in to "the field" on my travels the ring comb will keep it

all together and ensure that it remains useable. So - 5 stars for content, 1 star for durability, averages to a 3 star rating overall. As an aside I also have the companion "Birds of Texas Field Guide" by the same author. That book is equally well structured with great photos and material. Even better I've had that one for some weeks now and it shows no signs of falling apart! (Fingers crossed).

The inside of the book is fine, but the binding broke the first time I opened it. I expect a book like this to last a while and it won't last a year if I use it much.

Probably the only thing missing from Stan's book is some of the non-native trees that sometimes break out of the nurseries and spread their seeds elsewhere. Not a big deal if you have other books available. Given the fact that it's a book on Texas trees earns it a 5 star rating. Well organized and thought out book.

I had a hard time making much use of this book. I admit I'm no botanist or naturalist, but I didn't think that was who the book was written for. I mostly wanted to be able to identify the trees growing around Houston and I found that the book did not make this simple. Many of the native trees growing the forests around my home are simply absent.

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