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By The Prophet Of The Earth: Ethnobotany Of The Pima



Synopsis

Book by Curtin, L. S. M.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Curtin carried out her research over four seasons, collecting plants and discussing with the Indian women their use as food, medicine, and in other ways. . . . This book is one to dip into, enjoying the anecdotes of a vanishing way of life." [Cactus and Succulent Journal](#)"Curtin's work represents a beginning inquiry into the relationship between the loss of traditional foods from the diet of the Gila River Pima Indians, and increased occurrences among Pimans of nutrition-related diseases. . . . Primary interest to academic and public libraries in the Southwest." [The Reprint Bulletin](#)

This is a wonderful book for someone interested in plants of the Sonora Desert and/or the culture of the Pima. The book is filled with anecdotes of the author's experience working with members of the Pima community in a time when Native Americans were expected to stay on their reservation and conform to modern society. Even in the 1940's the traditional ways were in the process of being lost. The Pima were eating the white man's foods instead of their traditional foods, and diabetes and heart disease were beginning to take a toll. This book is a nice introduction to these topics, though more indepth books have since been written.

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