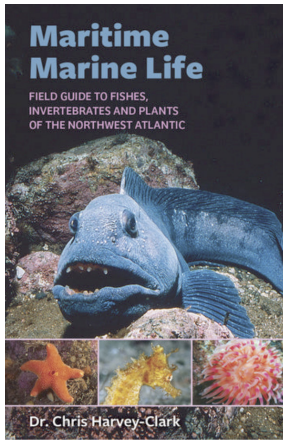


BOOK REVIEW

***Maritime Marine Life. Field Guide to Fishes, Invertebrates and Plants of the Northwest Atlantic.* C. Harvey-Clark. 2021. Meisnerworks Publishing, Timberlea, NS. 96 pp.**



This superb little field guide is a “must read- must possess” for the keen amateur marine biologist and walker of beaches and coastlines. The author is an intrepid and well-known local diver, photographer and documentary film maker; he and many others contributed to the information and superb photos.

The book has a small format, hence is light and easy to pack for the field. After an informative introduction to seashore biology, oceanography of the NW Atlantic region, and taxonomy, the guide describes a range of marine plants, invertebrates, chordates (tunicates, fish) and summer visitors (finfish, other species, turtles) that are found along the shores and in the waters of Maritime Canada. It is beautifully illustrated and has a paragraph on each species which includes a scientific name, description, location and range. The book also includes a useful reference list and an index.

I was especially intrigued by the section on our summer ocean visitors, co-authored with Sarah Burko. Some animals are swept in on eddies from the Gulf Stream offshore (e.g., Portuguese Man o’War; the Chesapeake blue crab now well established in the Gulf of Maine; and 18 species of finfish). Other species are common migratory visitors from the Caribbean, such as the loggerhead and leatherback sea turtles. Especially noteworthy are the amazing images of the Great White Shark, the presence and migration of which are now studied intensively in our waters.

This field guide should find much use by residents of Nova Scotia and visitors alike. It will contribute to their knowledge of the many species inhabiting our coastal waters, and above all, add to

their enjoyment of knowing more about the biodiversity of our coastal and ocean environment.

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