

(Download free pdf) Just Weeds: History, Myths and Uses

Just Weeds: History, Myths and Uses

Pamela Jones

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Pamela Jones : Just Weeds: History, Myths and Uses before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Just Weeds: History, Myths and Uses:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Considerable useful information but I'm glad I didn't have to pay the full cover price. By Speedy I can't say that I've read Just Weeds cover to cover but I'm very favorably impressed with what I have read. The author describes thirty common yard, garden and roadside plants in considerable detail and includes information on their uses including edibility and medicinal applications. Two potentially harmful common plants Pokeweed and Poison ivy are also included. I didn't really expect that there would be a list of folkloric applications for those plants considered useful but there is although I, at least, would have liked the author to distinguish what plants are actually medicinal and what are only supposedly healing according to folklore. It's my understanding that the book is out of print and for that reason I was able to get a virtually pristine but supposedly used copy for a small fraction of the cover price. The hardcover edition (I don't know if there was a soft cover edition) has a \$29.95 price on it and a 1991 copyright date. I think Just Weeds is well worth what I paid for it but I don't think I'd be willing to pay the full cover price for it now that I've gotten a feel for its contents. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book. Not only does it give identification details ... By Maria Cusano Great book. Not only does it give identification details and modern culinary and medical uses but the author gives historical medical uses and references. She also refers to country uses from both England and Germany. Terrific resource. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Found this title on a friend's bookshelf and had to get a copy for myself! By Barb in

Milford How did I miss this book twenty-some years ago? Great illustrations and lore in this classic book of "weeds". Beautifully written, I will use this as one of my "go to" books on the wonderful world of plants.

To Pamela Jones, the wild plants that most of us call weeds - far from being the scourges of the garden - are among nature's most generous, useful gifts. In this book, she conveys not only knowledge but affection. She covers 30 of the most common wild plants of North America, their habitat, history, and practical value.

From Publishers Weekly At last, a book that justifies not spending endless days trying to eradicate the usually unwanted, nearly always useless plants called weeds. Many of Jones's (*How Does Your Garden Grow*) weeds are in fact considered wildflowers (yarrow, Queen Anne's lace) or herbs (purslane, watercress), and in her view they're quite all right. Partly due to Jones's obvious delight in rescuing unheralded orphans of nature, they gradually win our respect as we read about the many uses, historical and modern, of the plants. Ground ivy, for example, was employed by the Saxons in clarifying beer before hops were known; the juice of its leaves, high in vitamin C, was prized in treating scurvy. The various virtues Jones extols may not convince all gardeners to actually cultivate weeds, but may induce a less deadly fanaticism in pulling them. As well as providing detailed descriptions of each weed, the author includes a helpful appendix of folk remedies (for acne, freckles, warts) and an exhaustive list of common names.

Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From School Library Journal YA-- A dictionary, a history, an herbal guide, *Just Weeds* is useful for anyone interested in what wildflowers and plants are all about. The book gives readily accessible information about 30 common wild plants--or weeds. Jones and Johnson combine their talents to provide readers with a visual and textual delight. This will be of particular interest for those just becoming intrigued with "natural" recipes, herbal remedies, and the beauty of everyday, ordinary, but not just plain, weeds. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Jones, author of *How Does Your Garden Grow?* (LJ 3/1/89), hopes to so impress readers with the value of common weeds (for purifying the blood, treating the bite of a mad dog, and the like) that the very term "weed" will eventually be "abolished altogether for being one of the most intolerant, negative words." To this end, she profiles 30 favorite plants such as burdock, poison ivy, and pokeweed, emphasizing their use in herbal folklore and cooking. Jones, therefore, does not duplicate Sara Stein's *My Weeds* (LJ 6/15/88), which used common plants to illustrate botanical principles. However, it's hard to imagine that anyone prepared to drink couch-grass tea hasn't already found inspiration in one of the many herbalism books on library shelves.

Gardeners will view most of these plants with "intolerance" no matter what Jones says. Buy where demand warrants.- Beth Clewis, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community Coll. Lib., Richmond, Va. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.