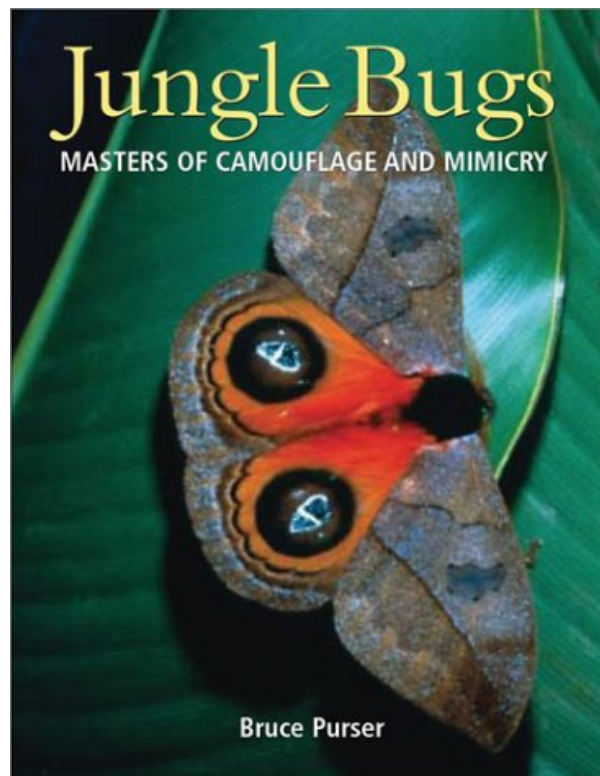
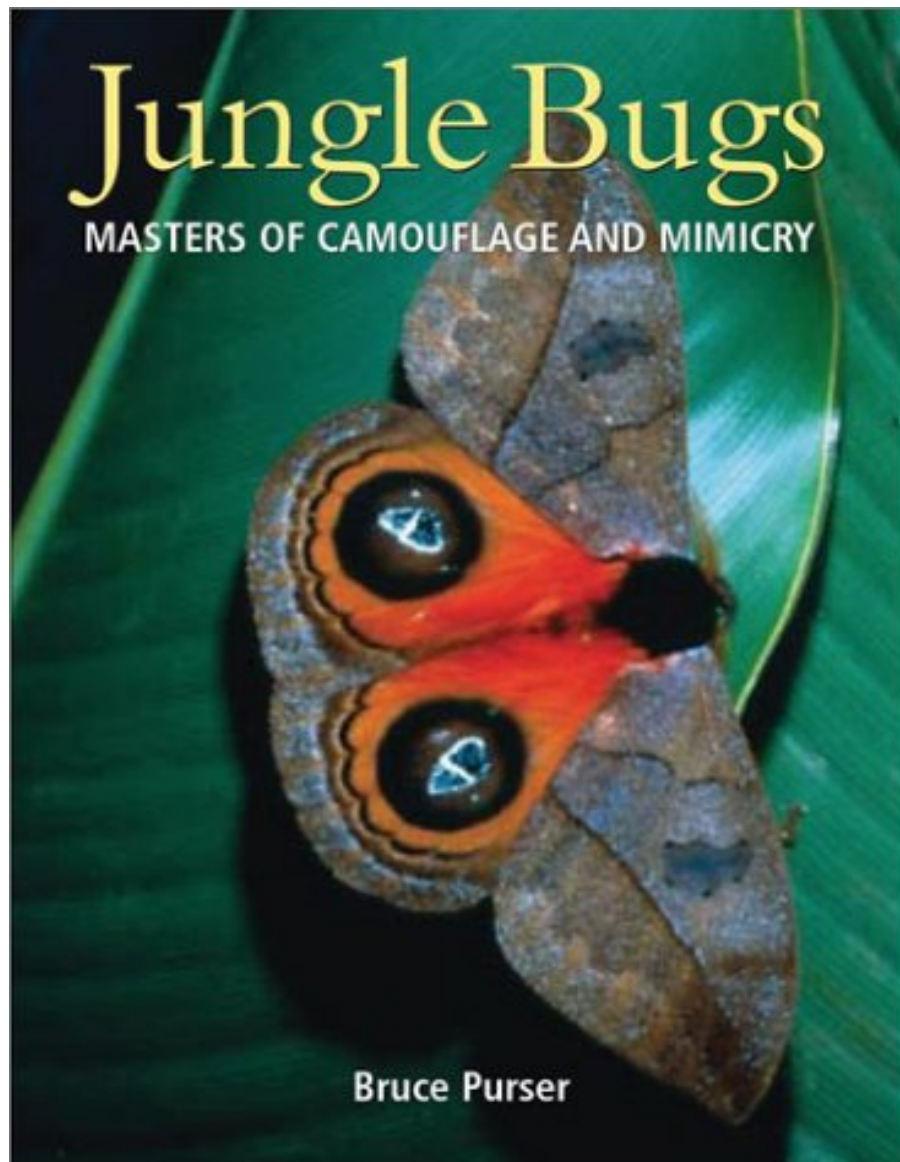


JUNGLE BUGS: MASTERS OF CAMOUFLAGE AND MIMICRY BY BRUCE PURSER



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From Booklist

Insects have lived on our planet for about 450 million years and are found in every one of the habitats that have appeared over that long period. The roughly 1 million species of insects all have predators, and during their long tenure, they have evolved many subtle ways to escape being eaten. Camouflage--the ability to hide in plain sight--and mimicry--the ability to mimic other dangerous or unpalatable animals--are two strategies very well developed in the insect world. Purser has been photographing insects in jungle areas all over the world since the 1970s, and this collection of his images reveals the amazing ways insects hide from their predators. From moths and katydids that resemble leaves to butterfly chrysalids that dangle like crumpled foliage, the camouflage exhibited by tropical insects is truly amazing. Even more astonishing are the mimics: palatable butterflies that have copied the wing patterns of poisonous species and butterflies with false heads on their wings. In common with other Firefly productions, this book is beautifully illustrated with the author's photos. Nancy Bent

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Review

Purser's text and 300 dramatic color photos offer entertaining content for the curious adult. (Linda Piwowarczyk Chicago Sun Newspapers 2003-11-13)

Reveals the amazing ways insects hide from their predators ... beautifully illustrated with the author's photos. (Nancy Bent Booklist 2003-08-01)

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About the Author

Bruce Purser spent the first ten years of his life on a sheep farm in New Zealand where he developed his lifelong fascination with insects. He trained as a geologist, which led him to the jungles of Borneo and Sumatra. He visited many tropical forests, notably those of South America. In the 1970s he moved from collecting insects to photographing them.

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JUNGLE BUGS: MASTERS OF CAMOUFLAGE AND MIMICRY BY BRUCE PURSER PDF

During roughly 400 million years on this planet, one million species of insects have developed with a great diversity of shape and color to protect them from predators.

Bruce Purser spent years traveling through tropical forests studying insects and photographing their ongoing quest for survival as they blended into tree trunks and imitated sticks, leaves, other bugs, and even bird droppings. Taken in exotic locales including French Guyana, the Peruvian Amazon, Malaysia, Kenya, Morocco, and Venezuela, his dazzling photographs are accompanied by thoughtful text as he traces the insects' efforts to hide from or scare off their predators.

In this charming and informative book:

- Explore the dangerous and little-known world of insects
- Experience exotic tropic tours
- Discover animal behavior in lively and understandable language
- Find out how a good disguise or a good impersonation can make the difference between life and death in the animal world

Stunning color photographs reveal insect secrets that we would never get a chance to observe ourselves: such as a harmless moth that looks exactly like a stinging wasp or an inoffensive butterfly that's protected from predators because its coloring is almost identical to that of a highly poisonous variety.

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- Binding: Hardcover
- 128 pages

Features

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Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Insects worth looking at

By Art Shapiro

Magnificent photos of live insects displaying various forms of presumed-adaptive coloration in the tropics. The commentary is basically sound, though tainted by a bit more teleology than one might wish. The book is scantily referenced. Most of the concepts illustrated were already current in 1892 when Frank Beppard published "Animal Coloration," but that's all right. The author, a well-traveled retired geologist, is an amateur entomologist but clearly is in the top rank of insect photographers. Few of the insects are identified to the species level, so if there are errors they are not conspicuous (as they are in his other, more recent book on "Butterflies of the Andes"). I wish the title were a bit less crude! First-rate eye candy.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Rainforests camouflage at its best

By MR JEROME GUBLIN

Jungle Bugs is one of the very few books - if not the only - on camouflage and mimicry in tropical rainforests. For others perspectives go on Blurb and look for Evolution book that deals on the same subject

from Borneo to Amazonia, Madagascar and lot of others rainforests around the world.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Jungle Bugs

By L. Heikes

For those who like to look at photos of real-life bugs up close and in their environment, this is the book for you. The pictures are amazing. There are more photos of camouflage and mimicry than in any other book of its kind that I've looked at--and I've looked at many! It's appropriate for all ages because it contains good information, but it is also worth it just for the pictures!

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