

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910815421803321
Autore	Smith James P (James Payne), <1941->
Titolo	Field guide to grasses of California // James P. Smith, Jr. ; illustrated by Kathy Simpson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oakland, California : , : University of California Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	0-520-95843-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (449 p.)
Collana	California Natural History Guides ; ; Number 110
Disciplina	584/.74
Soggetti	Grasses - California
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- Preface -- INTRODUCTION -- THE STRUCTURE OF GRASSES -- GRASSES IN CALIFORNIA -- COLLECTING AND IDENTIFYING GRASSES -- ACCOUNTS AND DESCRIPTIONS -- APPENDIX A: CHECKLIST OF CALIFORNIA GRASSES -- GLOSSARY, ABBREVIATIONS, AND SYMBOLS -- INDEX -- ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Sommario/riassunto	Grasses and grasslands are of increasing interest to conservationists, biologists, and gardeners. There are more than 300 species of native California grasses and they are found in almost every climate-from cool, wet forests to hot, dry deserts. Native grasses are also important to land restoration as they improve soil quality, increase water infiltration, and recycle nutrients. Their deep roots can tap soil water, which allows them to stay green year-round and to act as fire buffers around residences. Native grasses also provide vital habitat for many species of insects, birds, reptiles, and mammals. Despite their importance, grasslands remain one of the most under protected of California's vegetation types, and native grasslands have undergone the greatest percentage loss of any habitat type in the state. Grasses are also among the most difficult plants to identify. Organized alphabetically, Field Guide to Grasses of California covers common native and naturalized grasses and, to help identify them, also features over 180 color illustrations.

