



# Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work

*By John King*


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## **Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work** By John King

From their ability to use energy from sunlight to make their own food, to combating attacks from diseases and predators, plants have evolved an amazing range of life-sustaining strategies. Written with the non-specialist in mind, John King's lively natural history explains how plants function, from how they gain energy and nutrition to how they grow, develop and ultimately die. New to this edition is a section devoted to plants and the environment, exploring how problems created by human activities, such as global warming, pollution of land, water and air, and increasing ocean acidity, are impacting on the lives of plants. King's narrative provides a simple, highly readable introduction, with boxes in each chapter offering additional or more advanced material for readers seeking more detail. He concludes that despite the challenges posed by growing environmental perils, plants will continue to dominate our planet.

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## **Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work** By John King Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"... a simple, accessible introduction to the living plant."

A.L. Jacobsen, Choice Magazine

"Overall, this text is highly accessible and comprehensible for nonspecialists, yet still an engaging read for specialists with a good knowledge of the plant life cycle and plant physiology. This text is highly recommended for any citizen looking for a straightforward and thorough overview of plants and their lives. It is an excellent resource for a non-majors course or course on plant biology for non-plant science majors."

Beronda L. Montgomery, Michigan State University for Plant Science Bulletin

"Overall, I enjoyed the book. It was interesting and presented many examples of plant species and environments from around the world."

Kathryn L. Buchanan for The Forestry Chronicle

"Reaching for the Sun is a very entertaining read for a basic overview of plant physiology. Casual readers interested in an overview of how plants function in the environment will find it easy to understand and quite informative."

Thomas Silva, Quarterly Review of Biology

"... one of the best-written, general accounts of plant biology that I know... King is a great teacher. In fact, he is more than that; he is a great story-teller. And this is nowhere better demonstrated than in his explanation of how water can rise to the top of very tall trees, a description that is built up seemingly effortlessly, and that along the way integrates strands of biophysics, biochemistry, physiology and anatomy, all of which are beautifully woven together to produce a complete and satisfying whole. So, if you are looking for a book to stress the significance of modern plant science/fascination of botany on young minds (or even no-so-young ones), look no further than the 2nd edition of John King's Reaching for the Sun!

Nigel Chaffey, Annals of Botany

### About the Author

John King is Professor Emeritus of Biology at the University of Saskatchewan. He is a past President of the Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists and in 2001 he was awarded their highest honour, the Gold Medal, 'in recognition of outstanding contributions to plant physiology in Canada'. The first edition of Reaching for the Sun (Cambridge University Press, 1997) was nominated for the Rhône-Poulenc (now Aventis) Prize for Science (General Category).

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Reinaldo Downs:**

As people who live in typically the modest era should be update about what going on or information even knowledge to make them keep up with the era that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe may update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know which you should start with. This Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work is

our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

**Denise Zimmerman:**

The publication untitled Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work is the publication that recommended to you to study. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to you actually. The language that writer use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The article writer was did a lot of investigation when write the book, therefore the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also will get the e-book of Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

**Doreen Looney:**

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**James Martin:**

Is it an individual who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just resting on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Reaching for the Sun: How Plants Work can be the answer, oh how comes? A book you know. You are consequently out of date, spending your time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

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