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## Review of *A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Nebraska*. By Daniel D. Fogell.

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**A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Nebraska.** By Daniel D. Fogell. Conservation and Survey Division of the School of Natural Resources/Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2010. vi + 158 pp. Maps, illustrations, photographs, glossary. \$17.99 paper.

A good field guide to any wildlife group includes an identification key, quality photographs, distribution maps, and a natural history summary. The recently published *Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Nebraska* does not fail the reader in this regard, having all of these features and more. Dan Fogell effectively presents all 62 species of amphibians, turtles, and reptiles native to Nebraska as well as four additional species of possible occurrence within the state, and all in a useful and compact guide that can be toted easily on a hike or any other field expedition.

Fogell introduces Nebraska's herpetofauna by providing a brief history of Nebraska herpetology, followed by the legal conservation status of each species within the state. For serious herpetologists and field biologists there is an identification key, which includes outstanding line drawings by Errol Hooper Jr. that make distinguishing between characteristics relatively simple. The section on species accounts includes introductions to the herpetofaunal groups within which are descriptions of the taxonomic families residing in the state, although a brief comment on the family Bufonidae (True Toads) appears to have been overlooked. Individual species accounts are presented in both an attractive and useful manner. Each account follows the same format: species description, habitat, natural history, and distribution (both continental and Nebraskan) are on the left page, while photographs and Nebraska distribution maps are on the right, making all pertinent information for each species accessible without turning pages.

Full-color photographs are of outstanding quality and include at least one image that typifies the species as well as additional images that highlight important identification features or morphological variation when necessary. Range maps are also in color and include county outlines and major streams. Distributions are based on voucher specimens, and counties where specimens have been collected are highlighted in bold red. While this map style is useful, it does not offer a true representation of the actual range of a species. The book ends with a helpful glossary, followed by a checklist for those who like to maintain "life lists." Fogell includes additional line drawings showing the names and loca-

tions of reptile scales (also provided by Errol Hooper) on the inside front cover and a larger county outline map that incorporates county names on the inside back cover.

This long-overdue updated field guide to Nebraska's herpetofauna makes a significant contribution to Nebraska herpetology. It is practical, easy to read, and should be an integral tool for every field biologist, naturalist, and aspiring herpetologist in the state. **Joseph T. Collins**, *Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas*.