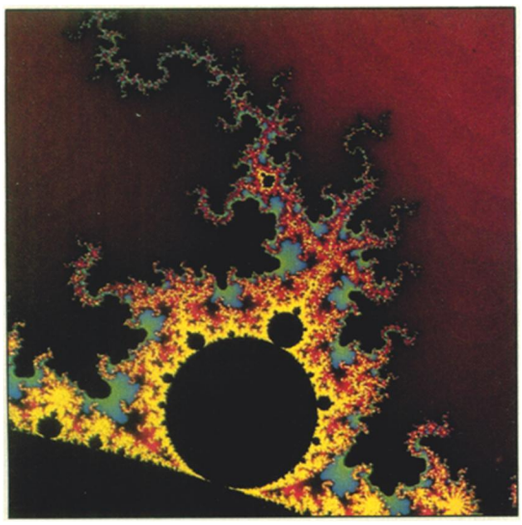
The Beauty of Fractals

Images of Complex Dynamical Systems

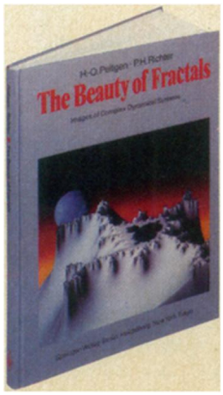
H.-O. PEITGEN and P.H. RICHTER

Intellectually stimulating and full of beautiful color plates, this book by German scientists Heinz-Otto Peitgen and Peter H. Richter is an unusual and unique attempt to present the field of Complex Dynamics. The astounding results assembled here invite the general public to share in a new mathematical experience: to revel in the charm of fractal frontiers.



In 88 full color pictures (and many more black and white illustrations), the authors present variations of a theme whose repercussions reach far beyond the realms of mathematics. They show how structures of unseen complexity and beauty unfold by the repeated action of simple rules. The implied unpredictability of many details in these processes, in spite of their complete determination by the given rules, reflects a major challenge to the prevailing scientific conception.

- Learn more about the important mathematical and scientific content of the Mandelbrot set and enjoy the beauty and complexity of this fascinating discovery.
- Experiment with the Mandelbrot set using the authors' many computergraphical tricks and secrets as well as the outline of algorithms for future experiments.
- Four invited contributions by leading scientists — including Benoit Mandelbrot — and one artist complement the book with further background and provocative views about the relation of science to art.



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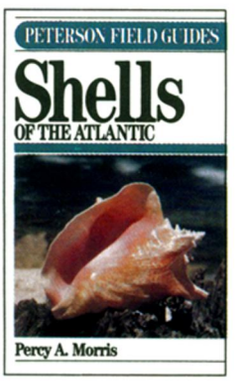

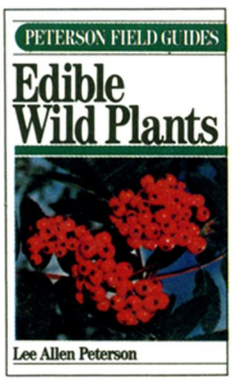

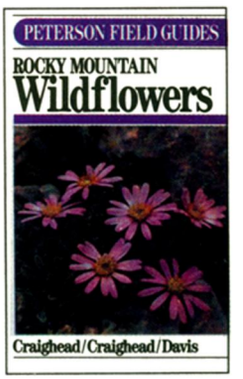

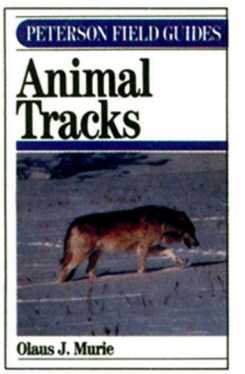

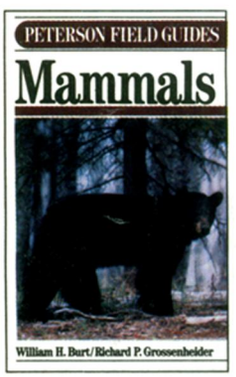

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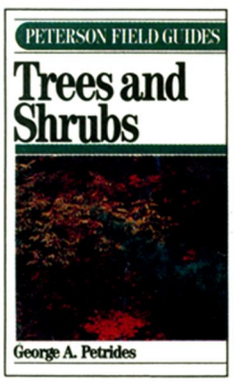

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