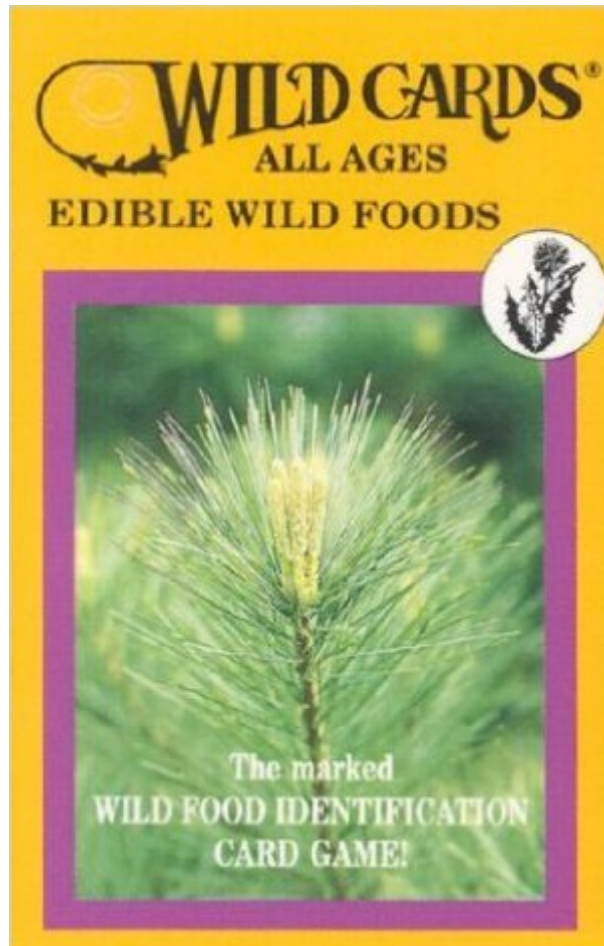


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# Wild Cards: Edible Wild Foods (All Ages)



## Synopsis

A playing card deck by Linda Runyon, with photos and descriptions of 52 different edible plants. Ideal for hikers, campers, survival experts, and gourmet cooks. Includes key chain for easy portability.

## Book Information

Series: All Ages

Cards

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (173 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,714 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Card Games](#) #31 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Reference](#) #6376 in [Books > Reference](#)

## Customer Reviews

I looked all over the web for the plants this deck contained and couldn't find a list so here you go: Aloe Amaranth Arrowhead Aster Blackberry Blueberry Raspberry Wild Strawberry Birch Bulrush Burdock Cattail Chamomile Chickweed Chicory Cholla Clover (Red & White) Daisy Dandelion Dock Fir, Balsam Fireweed Goldenrod Grape Lamb's Quarters Mallow Maple Meadowsweet Milkweed Mint Mullein Mustard Nettle Phragmites Pine Plantain Prickly Pear Primrose Puslane Queen Anne's Lace Rose Saguaro Shepherd's Purse Sumac Sunflower Thistle Thyme Violet Wild Lettuce Willow Wintergreen Yarrow As other reviews state the info on these cards is really good - what to eat/harvest and some prep instructions. The cards are pretty nice quality and the chain is great. The card game is... well not really a game, but that's not why I got it. I just like a simple picture and identification details. If you are like me you will get more from these than a long boring edibles book. Use these to find the plants, then when you want to explore more recipes or plant details go to the book. I do agree with others that I wish more versions were made. A special deck for just the western and eastern US would be great. Also a fruit specific deck would be ideal.

I'm preparing survival vests for my DH and I so, if we have to evacuate for a hurricane or worse, we'll have what we need right there on us. I got these cards thinking they would do double duty as an educational tool and also be something we could do with ourselves (play cards) if we don't have the electronics we've become accustomed to. The cards are well designed and glossy, and the photographs are pretty representative. Each has a line drawing of the plant's range and a black and white field drawing. On the playing card marked side, the cards give info on what parts of the plant are edible, characteristics, uses, and preparation hints. One card has a summary of how to test out an unknown plant to see if you can eat it--if you get desperate! The drilled hole through the left side of the cards and the chain are great, and they all fit into the cardboard pack with no problem. I wish I had several other kinds of survival decks, too, like maybe mushrooms, insects you can eat if you absolutely had to, maybe shelter-making and trap-setting decks, etc. Just any survival-type card decks would be fantastic, a different kind for each person in the family. I think this deck would make an excellent gift, especially for those occasions where you're supposed to spend less than \$10 and put the gift into the pot at the office. It would be a conversation piece at the least, and certainly would be very helpful if someone was stranded and needed to survive.

These are great. I admit to reading most of the reviews before purchasing these cards and decided to give them a try. These are great! They came in today and I immediately shuffled through them. They have many of the plants indigenous to my area, which I already knew were useful... but the verbal descriptions of the plant along with the sketch and photograph would make it nearly impossible to mis-identify these edible and otherwise useful plants and flowers. The helpful hints are awesome too and there are many different ways mentioned for their use which I didn't know. The fact that they have actual playing card symbols on the underside is amusing to me more than a frustration, because if I want to PLAY cards I'll bring a deck of playing cards, when I want to identify plants I'll break out the Wild Cards. Do not buy these if you are looking for playing cards that are meant to be playing cards. These are meant to be a survivalist aid, the other markings are nothing more than an amusing and secondary entertainment in a pinch I'm sure. Love the keychain chain that holds them all together because they ARE a slippery bunch, which makes it quite easy to slip through them quickly as you're searching for a specific card. They do not stick together at all like "new playing cards" do. These are really awesome and will be a great tool in any survival/evac kit.

These cards are a great resource to learn edible plants in North America. That said, their use as

playing cards is limited, as the field photo of the plant is on the card back - the printed side does have a suite and number, but once you learn that 6 of Spades is a Dandelion, for instance, the game is a bit ruined.

This deck of 52 information cards is the perfect companion for Runyon's book, *From Crabgrass Muffins to Pine Needle Tea: A National Wild Food Field Guide*. Held together by a key chain, the cards are great for taking along on a day hike or long camp out. Each card has a color picture and name of a wild edible plant on one side and uses, warnings, and preparation methods for the plant on the other side. My daughters and I take these with us whenever we go walking and they love playing games with them. As we walk, we try to spot the plants on the cards or use the cards to identify plants we see along the trail. Because the cards are strung together on a key chain, the girls can carry them around and I have no fear of losing any of them. --Lucy Watkins

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