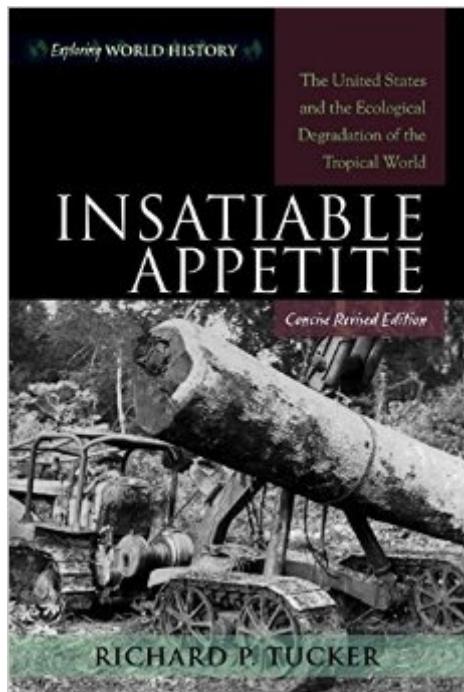


The book was found

# Insatiable Appetite: The United States And The Ecological Degradation Of The Tropical World (Exploring World History)



## Synopsis

Now in a concise edition created expressly for students and general readers, this widely hailed study traces the transformation of the tropics in modern times. Exploring the central role of the United States in the ongoing devastation of tropical lands, Richard P. Tucker shows how, in the late 1800s, American speculators first became participants in the centuries-long history of European economic and ecological hegemony in the tropics. Beginning as buyers in the tropical ports of the Atlantic and Pacific, they evolved into land speculators, controlling and managing the areas where tropical crops were grown for carefully fostered consumer markets at home. As corporate agro-industry emerged, the speculators took direct control of the ecological destinies of many tropical lands. Supported by the U.S. government's diplomatic and military protection, they built private empires in the Caribbean, Central and South America, the Pacific, Southeast Asia, and West Africa. Yankee investors and plantation managers mobilized engineers, agronomists, and loggers to undertake what they called the "Conquest of the Tropics," claiming to bring civilization to benighted peoples and cultivation to unproductive nature. In competitive cooperation with local landed and political elites, they not only cleared natural forests but also displaced multicrop tribal and peasant lands with monocrop export plantations rooted in private property regimes. In a masterful narrative, Tucker highlights the unrelenting pressure that the demands of U.S. consumerism placed on fragile tropical lands. The forced domestication of widely varied natural systems ultimately led to a devastating decline in biodiversity. The author brings his analysis to life with a series of vivid case studies of sugar, bananas, coffee, rubber, beef, and timber—each a virtual empire in itself. All readers who are interested in environmental degradation and its links to the world economy will be enlightened by this nuanced history.

## Book Information

Series: Exploring World History

Paperback: 280 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; Revised Edition edition (April 16, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0742553655

ISBN-13: 978-0742553651

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.6 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #372,677 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Tropical Agriculture #255 in Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Agriculture #256 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Latin America

## Customer Reviews

I purchased this book for a graduate class. It supported what I learned in the class very well. Tucker has a way with words though he can be long winded. He is clear on his biases which I find appealing in a historic writer. It does make you think about how our society came to this state and the toll we are still extracting from it. If you don't mind how slow it can be to read at times this is a must read for those interested in environmental history.

I think that this book should be required reading for all American and most British students. Know the facts about where certain goods originated in their consumption patterns and expand in your own thinking through this college text.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Insatiable Appetite: The United States and the Ecological Degradation of the Tropical World (Exploring World History) Ecuador and the United States: Useful Strangers (United States and the Americas) (United States and the Americas) (The United States and the Americas) Scott 1998 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps: Confederate States, Canal Zone, Danish West Indies Guam, Hawaii, United Nations : United ... Catalogue of United States Stamps) Easy Hawaiian Cookbook: Authentic Tropical Cooking (Hawaiian Cookbook, Hawaiian Recipes, Hawaiian Cooking, Tropical Cooking, Tropical Recipes, Tropical Cookbook Book 1) American History: The People & Events that Changed American History (People's History, American, United States of America, American Revolution, Patriot, United States History Book 1) Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers 2013: Confederate States-Canal Zone-Danish West Indies-Guam-Hawaii-United Nations: United ... Postage Stamp Catalogue: U.S. Specialized) Grand Expectations: The United States, 1945-1974 (Oxford History of the United States) Paraguay and the United States: Distant Allies (The United States and the Americas) War Plan Red: The United States' Secret Plan to Invade Canada and Canada's Secret Plan to Invade the United States A Guide Book of United States Paper Money 2nd Ed. (Guide Book of United States Paper Money: Complete Source) Illustrated catalogue of United States Cartridge Company's collection of firearms : the most complete collection in the United States Scott 2017 Specialized United States Postage Stamp Catalogue (Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps) Handbook of United

States Coins 2017: The Official Blue Book, Paperbook Edition (Handbook of United States Coins (Paper)) Official ANA Grading Standards for United States Coins (Official American Numismatic Association Grading Standards for United States Coins) A Guide Book of United States Coins 2015: The Official Red Book Spiral (Official Red Book: A Guide Book of United States Coins (Spiral)) Skin (Insatiable Series Book 1) Tropical Timbers of the World. United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook Number 607. September 1984 Scott 2013 Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue Volume 1 US and Countries of the World A-B: United States and Affiliated Territories, United Nations ... Vol.1: U.S., Countries of the World A-B) Beyond Resource Wars: Scarcity, Environmental Degradation, and International Cooperation (Global Environmental Accord: Strategies for Sustainability and Institutional Innovation) ISO 10993-9:1999, Biological evaluation of medical devices -- Part 9: Framework for identification and quantification of potential degradation products

[Dmca](#)