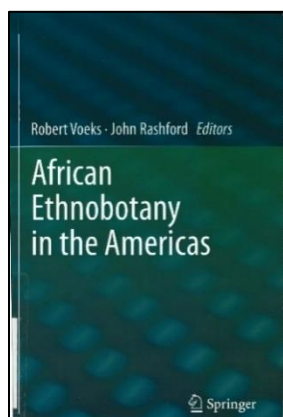


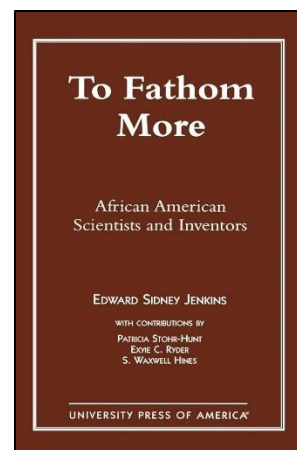
African American Contributions to the Study of Science and Botany

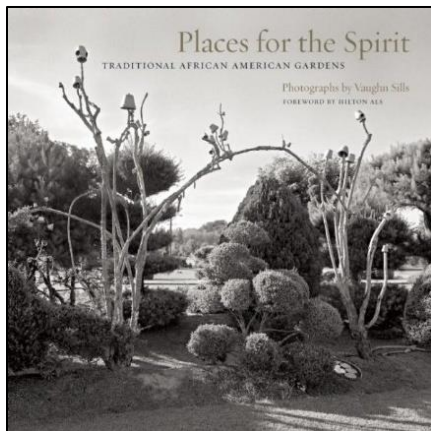
For Black History Month and beyond, we're spotlighting some of our favorite works in the Lloyd collections. Our holdings go deep and wide with topics ranging from ethnobotany, medical history, and folklore to the personal stories of naturalists, chemists, and inventors. These informative and insightful books are among the threads weaving the fabric of significant scientific and cultural accomplishments and do so through an understanding of African American traditions and achievements.



African Ethnobotany in the Americas, edited by Robert Voeks and John Rashford, takes a scholarly approach through 14 chapters on topics spanning crops, handicrafts, and plants in spiritual and medicinal use. With an overall emphasis on the African diaspora in the Americas, the contributors focus individually on areas extending from the American South to Brazil, Suriname, and the Caribbean. Maps, photography, and other illustrations fill out this rigorously researched work—an excellent resource in the study of how plants connect African culture to the Western hemisphere.

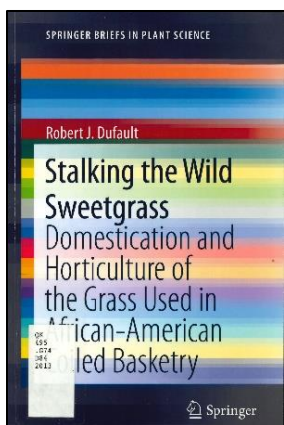
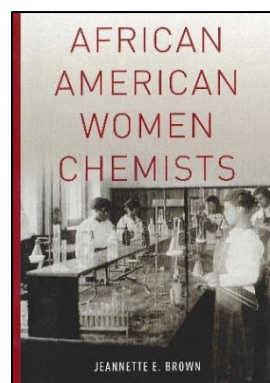
Crossing disciplines and centuries, *To Fathom More: African American Scientists and Inventors* by Edward Sidney Jenkins presents biographical profiles of 17 fascinating figures in African American scientific history. Names like renowned botanist and agricultural scientist George Washington Carver join Benjamin Banneker, the 18th-century naturalist, mathematician, astronomer and almanac publisher, and late 20th-century physicist Shirley A. Jackson. From inventing a breathing helmet for firefighters to pioneering work in chemotherapy, *To Fathom More* brings together a variety of notables, detailing their individual stories and impact of their work, and provides further reading sources for each.





The luminous photography of Vaughn Sills takes center stage in *Places for the Spirit: Traditional African American Gardens*. The accompanying text speaks to the photography itself, and the historical and cultural background of these residential gardens that are clearly labors of love. The gardens depicted go beyond plants, often incorporating a variety of containers and other objects of adornment. Reflecting nearly 20 years of work, *Places for the Spirit* documents the unique gardens and gardeners embodying this expression of African American culture in the Southern United States.

The history of science has long overlooked both women and people of color. *African American Women Chemists* by Jeannette E. Brown is a timely and valuable addition to the canon of scientific biographies. Brown introduces the reader to over 20 African American women chemists in fields including education, engineering, government, and industry, as well as highlighting early pioneers beginning in the 19th century. Bringing a first-hand perspective, Brown is herself a chemist with a background in both the pharmaceutical industry and academia.



In *Stalking the Wild Sweetgrass: Domestication and Horticulture of the Grass Used in African-American Coiled Basketry*, Robert J. Dufault tells a story at once both narrow and broad, old and new, and all at once. Centered largely around Charleston and the Lowcountry of South Carolina, and utilizing the native grass species *Muhlenbergia sericea*, the full picture brings together artistry, horticulture, botany, and history. The basket-weaving skills brought from West Africa by enslaved peoples form the foundation for a modern artisanal tradition, as Dufault takes readers up to the current effort to protect the future of sweetgrass itself as a vital part of preserving the art and craft of a cultural treasure.

Browse our library [catalog](http://lloydlibrary.org) at lloydlibrary.org for additional titles or contact us for more information or assistance.



LLOYD
LIBRARY & MUSEUM