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A Naturalist on a Tropical Farm -- Alexander Skutch -- University of California Press, Berkeley -- 405 p., 1 color and many black and white plates -- 1980 -- \$16.95, paperbound, \$7.95.

After years of writing detailed life histories of many tropical species, Skutch has turned to a more popular format. In this vein he is quite successful, especially in this offering on some of the birds and other fauna he studied in Costa Rica. Several chapters have appeared in part in magazines, such as Nature and Audubon, but have been expanded and revised for the book. Those who have not experienced the tropics first hand will get a good preview, travelers will renew acquaintance with old friends. ed.

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