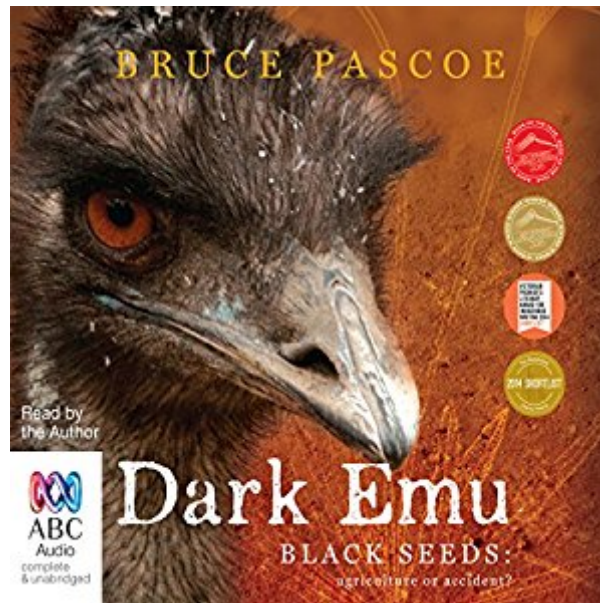




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Dark Emu: Black Seeds: Agriculture Or Accident?



Synopsis

A completely accessible, compelling and riveting account of pre-invasion Aboriginal agricultural systems. Dark Emu argues for a reconsideration of the 'hunter-gatherer' tag for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians and attempts to rebut the colonial myths that have worked to justify dispossession. Accomplished author Bruce Pascoe provides compelling evidence from the diaries of early explorers that suggests that systems of food production and land management have been blatantly understated in modern retellings of early Aboriginal history, and that a new look at Australia's past is required.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Others have rightly commented on this book's importance in reevaluating Australia's precolonial history. It is equally important in illuminating how history is subversively rewritten; how values different from the mainstream colonial/capitalistic narrative are marginalized. But it should also be considered one of the most important books for our times because it outlines a sustainable (thousands of years stable) agriculture, on largely poor soils that colonials thought of as nonviable, that fed a continent of people and fed them well.

My knowledge was limited. They say you learn a new thing every day and reading this well written, enlightening book is the first step for me to truly feel that I am now better informed about our first people's history. I embrace the history, the culture of our indigenous brothers and in that, feel our

Australian culture has yet another wonderful cultural layer to be proud of. The sooner more folk read and understand this book, the sooner we all realise how gratitude for our past is all important. We have a lot to learn from our indigenous brothers. Great read!

this really is an eye opening project... it challenges the stereotypes about the history and pre-history of Australia's first nations. It's an important story for us as Australians of all stripes and backgrounds, especially our original inhabitants. It's a case study that generalizes out to other cultures in at least two ways. 1. Alternative ways of relating to the land and participating in ecology in a productive way. 2. We find out first nations and our ancestors certainly were as smart and observant as anyone now.

The way Australian indigenous peoples' history was rewritten by the British authorities as explorers discovered their settlements and the fruitfulness of their integrated land management systems; even taking advantage of them for their own survival and providing written reports about them is truly shocking. Anything to support Terra Nullus, I guess! The fact that the written records remain in existence and remain unacknowledged outside of archaeologists is equally shocking.

Why weren't we taught this in school? We were lied to about indigenous Australians. I heard the author, Bruce Pascoe, interviewed on the ABC's Conversations with Richard Fidler and was astounded that I had never heard any of this information. Fascinating read. Did you know that the first bakers were indigenous Australian, about 30,000 years ago, beating the Egyptians by about 15,000 years?

For an Australian it is essential reading. Time the truth about Australia's indigenous history was revealed.

This book is a real eye-opener and should be mandatory reading for all Australians! The information about Aboriginal culture and heritage evidenced by first-hand contact by early explorers cannot be denied. The Australian history our children are learning in school is biased, untrue and corrupt. It's about time that all changed.

An eye-opening book, a worthwhile read for any Australian interested in how our community can learn from our history, and evolve successfully. Having just finished Bill Gammage's exhaustive The

Biggest Estate, Dark Emu provides a bigger picture view which I found inspiring in its own right, but also helpful in absorbing Gammage's ideas.

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