

CPT Product Review: US ARMY Survival Cards

<u>0 0 0 0</u> <u>by Larry Diffey</u>, <u>November 28, 2014</u>



Oath Keepers Vice President David Helms with a CPT Resource Review:

Army Survival Cards

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I recently acquired a set of cards put out by the Department of the Army that I had hoped would be a nice addition to the bug-out bag. Unfortunately, this was not the case. Here is a "heads-up" for your info.

<u>US ARMY Survival: The Card Set</u> is touted as being a handy way to carry around all the information that trained soldiers live their lives by. A further claim is that each card features a full-color photograph along with clear and simple instructions. Bear in mind that it isn't the Department of the Army making these claims, but the seller. Regardless of who made the claims the reality falls somewhat short. Many of the cards have illustrations rather than photographs, though they are generally good illustrations and fairly clear. Sadly, some of the photographs of edible and poisonous plants show too little of the plants to make a definitive determination.

The information provided is very basic, and worse, wrong in some instances. For example, there are a group of cards listed as "edible plants" and another group of cards listed as "poisonous plants". The chinaberry is listed on the front of the card as being edible but on the back there is this statement: "caution – all parts of the tree should be considered dangerous if eaten." That doesn't sound edible to me. The

range and habitat of poisonous snakes is also incorrect for many of the species. I can guarantee you that Arkansas has both the diamondback and the cottonmouth, though these cards seem to believe otherwise.

The cards are printed on reasonably heavy cardboard stock and come in a sturdy box. In the box they measure about 4.5x6x1.25 inches. I don't have a scale handy but they seem to weigh close to a half pound.

These cards <u>retail</u> for just under thirteen bucks. Based on the limited, and sometimes incorrect, information provided along with the space you'd be giving up in your pack and the weight you'd be taking on, I'd have to advise that you pass on these. There are much better options out there.

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