
This fun and lively handbook is the answer to many of your pepper identification questions. As the author of the famous reference book *Peppers: The Domesticated Capsicums* and considered by many to be the queen of chile aficionados, Jean Andrews comes uniquely qualified to write this book.

The pepper primer is intended for pepper hobbyists to horticulturists to the most devoted chile head. This book is mostly about identifying the different domesticated peppers and covers in some detail many issues involving peppers.

The book is not a cookbook and contains no recipes. However, it would also be of great value to the capiscum-cooking enthusiast. Clear information on proper identification, suitable cooking substitutes and seed sources for their favorite recipes are presented.

The book is structured into ten chapters, two glossaries and an identification key. Additional chapters are devoted to practical advice about the different pepper varieties and their uses, names, sources, uses, and remarks.

If you actually want to try to recreate a landscape or another of your choosing in your own backyard, this book is for you. Andrew has drawn from her extensive experience and love of capiscum to provide detailed and insightful information for each of the 45 types.

Sorted in alphabetical order by common name, each pepper type includes a rich color photograph in the fresh and/or dried state depending on how the pepper is consumed. Each description includes information on size, color, fruit shape, flesh type, pungency, substitutes (for cooking), other names, sources, uses, and remarks.

In addition to the wonderful photographs of the different pepper types, there is an illustrated glossary with sharp lined drawings that are helpful in more clearly defining the names and parts of the pepper fruit.

A reasonably priced paperback, this book is a must buy or a nice gift for people who work with or worship the multitude of different pepper types used domestically.

**William H. McCarthy**
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If you are in need of a coffee-table book filled with pictures of yard-sized natural landscapes almost equally divided between northeastern seaboard and west-southwestern states, this is satisfying, potential candidate. If you actually want to try to recreate one of these landscapes or another of your choosing in your own backyard, then this book is for you.

In a tour de force of stand-alone photographs and text, the father and son authors, both mathematicians by trade and training, call for a transformation of conventional landscape design toward which emulatestheM aster D esigner and sooth the soul.

Through numerous examples we are tempted and persuaded to define and decipher exactly what makes a natural landscape so compelling to our senses. Whether your favorite be forest, meadow, alpine, pond, waterfall, wetland, dryland, desert, or tropics, you will find it photographed and discussed. Seemingly all natural landscape types are covered from seashore shining seashore and from the highest elevations to one actually below sea level. Leaving no turn unstoned and adding several new gardening styles in the process, the authors cover even lichen and moss gardens.

There is no major emphasis on using strictly native plants to achieve the desired effect, since it is understood that attempts to grow moss and lichens in a dry climate or dogwoods and rhododendrons in alkaline soils is destined for failure. Offered instead are alternative plants such as *Sedum* and *Sagina* for moss and *Artemisia*, *Thymus*, and *Cerastium* for lichens.

Rock, stone and boulder in nature and in the homelandscape figure prominently and are likened to the best that the sculptors Brancusi, Hepworth, and Moore have to offer. Alternatives are here too offered as the real thing can be quite costly. Several examples of faux-rock are presented, one with a tree growing out of an all-too-obvious preformed hole.

In Redwood National Park, a giant landscape filled with giant plants, the authors choose to highlight a cameo scene where *Sedum spathulifolium* takes center stage. In another view, scenes of *Cerastium tomentosum*, *ogerberry blos- soms* on *red sandstone* and bright fall-colored leaves softly embracing autumn smudged finale are celebrated as much as crashing waterfalls and stark, cactus-filled desert scenes.

Scattered throughout are scenes of a variety of public and private gardens that best emulate the book's theme, culminating with a chapter on Japanese gardens—the supreme example of being able to evoke large moods in small space.

Only a plantsman would find details out of place. Some of the dwarf conifers pictured are merely young; the limber pines described appear as...
lodgepole pines in the accompanying plate; there is only one species of Yucca in Montana, not several and the planting of Mahonia haematocarpa is outlawed in many states in an effort to control Puccinia graminis.

The call for walking more softly on the earth in all things is met quite admirably with this treatise of gardening. I, hard-edged, linear-thinking mathematicians can do it, then so can horticulturists.

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This is Volume V of a six-part series that describes the species within the subtribe Laeliinae of the Orchidaceae family. This subtribe is commonly referred to as the Cattleya alliance. Volume of this series describes the Cattleya species; Volume II the Laelia species; Volume III the Schomburgkia, Sophronitis, and other South American genera; and Volume IV the Bahamian and Caribbean species. This volume covers the species that are most similar and are distinguished by subtle differences in the structure of the lip. In this volume, the figure shows the flattened lip configuration is provided. This figure is helpful; however, the few Encyclia species I tried to match to this figure were intermediate and could not be matched to a single species. The only other comprehensive treatment of Encyclia is an out-of-print book by Dressler and Pollard published in 1976 by the Asociacion Mexicana de Orquideologia. This book was also not of much help to me in the identification of my Encyclia species.

In this volume, Withner proposes a new genus—Euchile (Dressler and Pollard) Withner—four species (E. mariae and E. citrina) previously placed in the genus Encyclia. These species were previously placed within the subgenus Osphomyum (Lindley) of the genus Encyclia. These species have the same unique leaf and column structures and are easily distinguishable from the typical Encyclia.

My only criticism of the book is that the common name is used as the title for each species description and the scientific name is placed in smaller print within the text. This makes it difficult to use the species key, which does not list common names. The author addressed this criticism in the preface of this volume. He wrote: "In reading reviews of this set of volumes are current, the theme has been the question of why I have bothered with a common name for all the species. This practice is in the nineteenth century and before, and if nothing more, often acquaints the reader with the meaning of the Latin or Greek species epithet."

Despite this criticism, I highly recommend this book. Unlike most taxonomic treatments I enjoyed reading this book. This series of volumes has already made an important impact in orchid taxonomy and I look forward to reading the last volume in the series.
Riffle describes in some detail his criteria for the plants he classifies as having a tropical look. He explains that while the tropics are confined to the latitude 23 degrees 27 minutes north and south of the equator, this doesn’t account for temperatures at higher altitudes which clearly will not support plants which cannot withstand a freeze. Hence his basic definition of a tropical plant is that they will not survive a freeze. However, his definition of the tropical look excludes many true tropical plants from his book. For example, he rationalizes that orchids are only of exceptional beauty when in flower and are rather uninspiring the rest of the time. So orchids, and several other tropical plants, do not make an appearance in this tropical look encyclopedia.

The main body of Riffle's book is the encyclopedic listing of nearly 2000 exotic plants. He defines for each species contain scientific name, common names, plant family, and requirements for light, water, soil and propagation. This is followed by excellent descriptions of plant dimensions, form, textural qualities of foliage and bark, anatomical details on leaf shape and flower form, branching attributes, special cultural considerations, as well as triggering mechanisms for flowering and deciduousness. The strength of the encyclopedia is the inclusion of Riffle’s editorial commentary and personal experiences with each species. His colorful, detailed, and often flamboyant descriptions make reading his book a charming experience. Additionally, 409 superb color plates reinforce plants that he paints in the mind’s eye.

The crowning touch are the 22 landscape lists that provide guidance in using the tropical look plants found in the encyclopedia. Nearly 30 pages of lists include topics such as invasives, hedge and screening plants, bamboo and large grasses, fast-growing plants, fragrant plants, poisonous plants, shade-tolerant plants, succulent and cactusy-looking plants, aquatic, bog and marsh plants; and erosion-controlling plants.

Although written for the layman, this book is of value to the professional horticulturist as well. It would enhance any horticulturist’s library shelf.

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According to the jacket, Ian Cooke is from Great Britain and has written for the Royal Horticultural Society's journal, The Garden, and has worked professionally in horticulture for 28 years. Much of the book is based on his experiences gardening and working in the British Isles. In the first chapter, he defines tender perennials as "... any perennial plant that will grow outside successfully in temperate climates during the summer months, but requires some winter protection." The latter is normally a frost-protected glasshouse, but the ingenious gardener will undoubtedly find other ways of overwintering those plants on the borders of hardness." A few pages later, he provides more detailed information that quickly lets the reader know that he will be covering perennials hardy in USDA hardiness zones 7 through 11. This book definitely covers truly tender plants, many are considered annuals in zone 6 and further north. For example, he includes plants such as coleus, cosmos, heliotrope, and the pelargoniums.

Cooke divides A Plantfinder's Guide to Tender Perennials into four parts: Introducing Tender Perennials (two chapters), A Selection of the Best (one chapter), Planting Schemes (five chapters) and Propagation and Cultivation (two chapters). There are three appendices (Where to See Tender Perennials, Where to Buy Tender Perennials, Origins of Tender Perennials).

Chapter 3, A to Z of Tender Perennials, is a dictionary of tender perennials. Entries will include general plant information, descriptive information, history, propagation, cultivation and a list of related species and cultivars. Not all genera are treated equally; the amount of information provided will vary. This chapter does include some of the more recent introductions to the U.S. bedding plant industry (e.g., Diascia, Sutera, Tibouchina) and is a source of good information for these plants. The photographs and plates included throughout the book are extremely high quality.

The third part of the book covers propagation, general care, insect pests and diseases. The information regarding potting mixes will not be easily applied by an inexperienced gardener in the U.S. mainly because of references to composts and potting mixes common to the U.K. Cooke includes some information about training some of the tender perennials as standards or making living sculptures. The discussion of both chemical and non-chemical control of insect and disease problems is brief. Appendices include mostly U.K. sites to see or obtain tender perennials.

A Plantfinder's Guide to Tender Perennials would be a useful addition to the public, Master Gardener, or home library. The quality of the photographs, the information on garden design and planting schemes, and the coverage of some of the newer plant species being introduced to the American bedding plant market, all make it a worthwhile book to have.

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For centuries herbs have been used as condiments, fragrances, and home remedies, but have usually been neglected as ornamentals. There is no
The objective of this book is precisely to demonstrate gardeners and landscapers that most herbs are not only good foliage plants but also ornamental plants with beautiful flowers and excellent decorative attributes, which can be exploited to advantage in landscaping. The plant descriptions presented in this book show that the author is an experienced herb grower. As she herself puts it: "Over a period of more than twenty-five years, my garden, indeed much of the farm landscape, became a laboratory for testing flowering herbs of all types for their ornamental value." Her motivation to write this book then comes from many years of observing, studying and testing herbs not only for their traditional culinary/medicinal value but also for their potential as ornamental plants.

**Herbs In Bloom** is divided into three chapters. The first chapter, *Growing Flowering Herbs*, is a very brief chapter on how to sow, propagate, transplant, and maintain the plants. The second chapter, *Landscaping with Flowering Herbs*, is also a very brief chapter on the different landscape possibilities for ornamental herbs, such as accent, bed or border, container, edge and hedge, ground cover, naturalized herb, and rock work. The author describes these terms and gives the common and scientific name of herbs that would accommodate best to these landscape uses. The third chapter, *Plant Portraits from A to Z*, takes about 80% of the book. This chapter is comprised of brief descriptions of 82 herb species (2 to 5 pages each) with ornamental value, which were selected as all-time favorites after thorough review of classic herbal literature and consultation of leading nurseries and professional herb growers. Each plant portrait starts with a brief quote from observations made on the plant by one of many past and present herb growers' writers. Then, in a recipe format, it gives the scientific name, family, common name(s), growing cycle, site and soil requirements, hardness, landscape use, height, flower characteristics, and blooming season of the ornamental herb being described. The main part of the portrait is a condensed description of the herb where only the most essential is discussed. In the words of the author: "Each portrait includes the most vital information about each plant to show at a glance its characteristics and uses as an ornamental herb." These characteristics and uses may include origin, morphological description, environmental requirements, industrial uses, curative properties, recipes, landscape applications, description of new cultivars, etc. Some of the portraits have at the end very brief descriptions of related plants of interest; that is, plants of the same genus but different species that have also good potential as ornamentals.

The book has three appendices. Appendix I cross-refers the common name with the scientific name of the herbs. Appendix II groups the plants by season, according to the time of full bloom. And Appendix III gives the name and address of retail seed and plant companies.

A major accomplishment of this book is its photographs. They are abundant, of excellent quality and well placed throughout the book. The photographs are also a perfect and essential complement to the narrative. What can not be described with words is said through the photographs. The pictures allow the reader to grasp the whole beauty of the ornamental herbs portrayed. The listing of the plants in the index by scientific name and in the appendix I by common name is a plus because it facilitates finding in the body of the book of an specific herb known only by its common name. While it is arguable whether a few of the plants included in the book are truly herbs (for example roses and carnations), most in the list were well selected and are among the most promising as ornamentals. The most valuable part in the plant portraits is the short paragraph on the qualities and possibilities of the herbs as ornamentals. In these paragraphs the author explains the best ways to exploit the ornamental qualities of the herbs in the arrangement of a garden. These brief paragraphs are a condensation of many years of observation, testing, and study. This book will be invaluable to herb growers, gardeners and ornamental horticulturists interested in exploring new possibilities in the planting, growing, and arrangement of gardens. It will be also very informative to landscapers looking for novelty and diversity.

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Considering the breadth of information incorporated within *Arboriculture Integrated Management of Landscape Trees, Shrubs, and Vines*, the volume is a bargain at the suggested list price. As a comprehensive overview of arboriculture, the book successfully integrates cultural aspects of tree establishment, maintenance, and management. Substantially restructured and updated, the third edition of Harris' text includes sections of additional detail in the treatment of topics such as hazard tree management, plant health care, special planting situations and water quality issues, using the expertise of new co-authors Nelda Matheny and James Clark.

The text is well organized. The chapters follow a logical format that can be easily tailored to various curricula. Each chapter is clearly organized for the reader with a structured hierarchy of headings and subheadings. Boldface print highlights important points within sections making the book amenable to student reading needs. Graphics are positioned to clearly demonstrate points of practice as discussed in the text.

*Arboriculture*... is an excellent core textbook to be used in concert with other course-specific books. Many topics are objectively presented, often pointing up contradictory opinions and explaining the information in a logical conceptual framework. The book does rely on tree species references to illustrate points, so knowledge of plant material is a distinct advantage and necessary to fully appreciate the text. Texts on specific topics such as climbing, rigging,
canopy training may be necessary to flesh out areas of emphasis within a given course format. Arboriculture... addresses basic concepts and techniques to provide background for beginning students while providing detailed documentation and sources of information for more advanced students and practitioners.

As a practitioner reference, the text organization is a major strength. The table of contents is very direct in locating specific topics. The index is a pleasure, with boldface type cross-referencing the extensive glossary and graphics within the text. The comprehensive bibliographic format is unchanged. Given that text citations are extensive, the bibliographic format certainly works if one is flipping back and forth from the text; however, further organization in terms of subject headings might be useful.

The expense to update the older volume is easily justified. Even with changes, such as the consolidation of four pest and disease chapters into one chapter and comprehensive table, familiar illustrations are recognizable from the many dog-eared copies which have established this text as a must for any practitioner’s library. West Coast readers will appreciate the change to the Sunset climate zone system from the USDA hardiness map. It is important to appreciate the Sunset system, given retail labeling and interstate commerce of west coast nursery producers. However, the map on the inside cover is too small for usage and may not be as practical as other systems for practitioners in other parts of the country. Foldouts of both systems might be better.

The book is a solid volume and the new formatting is certainly a positive change. Any reader who will be dealing with trees in the landscape should seriously consider this text. Some graphics, such as the integration of growth over time or radiation conditions for frost might need to be revised for improved clarity. The next printing may wish to correct the few miscues in the text, such as the fragment on p. 274. This new volume is center left on my high usage bookshelf with good reason.

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Floriculture: Principles and Species.
John M. Dole and Harold F. Wilkins.

This book is a new, up-to-date textbook for classroom or reference use. It covers more than 90 floricultural crops in an easy-to-read format. The book is divided into three sections: an introduction, floriculture and dormancy, and crop management. This is an important section as the fundamentals of growing any crop are discussed here. The text for each crop is documented by graphs and extensive tables and each chapter brings a lot of important information together in one area. All chapters contain good breadth of subject material though some have more depth than others. The authors' overall goal of providing general production information, however, is achieved.

Part II consists of specific floricultural crops, which include cut flowers, potted, annual, perennial, foliage, and carnivorous plants. A floricultural crop includes this crop in the genus as the species mentioned. Consistency of presentation of material is a key component for a good student text or reference book. In this book, each crop is treated the same as 19 topics are consistently covered. The topics are: introduction, cultivation, propagation, flowering control and dormancy, temperature, light, water, carbon dioxide, nutrition, media, height control, spacing, pinching and disbudding, support, scheduling, and postharvest timing, insects, diseases, physiological disorders, and postharvest. Each topic is still listed even if there is little available information or it is not a cultural requirement for that crop. The material presented under each topic is clear and concise. Thank the University of Nebraska Press for publishing this book.
significant advances made since 1986 when the last major book on tomato was published. According to the cover description this book provides comprehensive information about tomato plant culture and fruit production that is beneficial to plant scientists and commercial field and greenhouse growers as well as the home gardener. As one might suspect, it is a formidable task to combine all of the features necessary to satisfy the informational needs of this diverse audience in one small volume. There is a profusion of information on sometopics. For example, three tables are provided on the nutritional composition of tomatoes as reported from as many sources. The values, except for an error in the Vitamin A content in one of the tables, are similar enough so it would have been sufficient to include only one of the three tables. Another case in point is found in the chapter on greenhouse tomato production where results of three surveys report area devoted to greenhouse tomato cultivation to be either 8, 30, or 20 acres in California; 0, 0, or 70 acres in Arkansas; and 69, 94, or 150 acres in Colorado. Which is correct? Or, even close to the actual area?

The author chose to use the units in the original research rather than convert to English units (best for the grower and home gardener) or to SI units (best for the scientist). So, the following situation arises, “According to Papadopoulos (1991), the optimum space per plant is 0.35 to 0.40 m² planted in double rows at 80-cm spacings with 1.2 m between the double rows. Snyder (1997a) suggests 4 ft² per plant for a population of 10,000 plants per acre. The arrangement is double rows — 4 ft apart with 14 to 16 inches between plants in the row.” Fortunately, my metric conversion calculator came to the rescue so I could determine that 0.4 m² = 4 ft² and that 1.2 m = 4 ft, but 80 cm = 31 inches, not 14 to 16 inches. This situation again suggests the difficulty of writing for a very broad audience.

Certainly, Tomato Plant Culture will be a useful addition to the libraries of those interested in this universally important vegetable. But one should not expect it to fulfill all of the informational requirements of the scientist, the practitioner, or the hobbyist.

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Effective postharvest handling is critical in maintaining the quality and freshness of crops from the time when they are harvested to when they are sold to the consumer. Presented in a new larger format with an expanded color section, this broad-based introductory level textbook covers the key concepts and practical technologies to slow the inevitable deterioration of Effective postharvest handling is critical in maintaining the quality and freshness of crops from the time when they are harvested to when they are sold to the consumer. Start your review of Postharvest: An Introduction to the Physiology and Handling of Fruit, Vegetables and Ornamentals.

Introduction. Production Practices. Harvest Handling. Conclusion. 800-346-9140. Postharvest handling of fruits and vegetables. Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas. Many vegetables and fruits store best at temperatures just above freezing, while others are injured by low temperatures and will store best at 45 to 55 degrees F. Both time and temperature are involved in chilling injury. Damage may occur in a short time if temperatures are considerably below the danger threshold, but some crops can withstand temperatures a few degrees into the danger zone for a longer time. Postharvest technology and the marketing of fruit and vegetables have changed markedly since Postharvest was first published in 1981. The growth in international trade and its counter-seasonal effect has resulted in many types of produce being available for 12 months of the year. In 1981, postharvest technology was only emerging as a distinct scientific discipline to support a more efficient handling of horticultural produce from the farm gate to the consumer. Over the years it has matured into a vibrant research community that works closely with fruit and vegetable industries and supply chains to provide integrated and cost-effective systems and technologies to meet market requirements.