
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 pocket 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 covering 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 pepper identification, suitable cooking substitutes and seed sources for their favorite recipes are presented.

The book is structured into ten chapters, two glossaries and information on seed sources. Initial chapters contain brief but thorough discussion on nomenclature, history, morphology and capsicum species identification key. Additional chapters offer practical advice about the main reason we love peppers—to eat them! She gives clear and concise advice on storing, drying, growing, and harvesting peppers.

The largest chapter and truly the raison d’etre for this book is the thorough pictorial and written description of 45 different pepper types within 5 different species of capsicums. Andrews has drawn from her extensive experience and love of capsicums 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.

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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 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 to one which emulates the master designer and soothes 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 sea 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 dry climates 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 M oore have to offer. Alternatives are heretofore 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 premolded hole.

In Redwood National Park, a giant landscape filled with giant plants, the authors choose to highlight a cameo scene where Sedum spectabile takes center stage. In other Zen-like scenes, elderberry blossoms fallen on red sandstone and bright fall-colored leaves softly embracing autumn’s muted 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 treatment of gardening. I find-edged, linear-thinking mathematicians can do it, then so can horticulturists.

JIM BORLAND
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This is Volume V of a six-part series that describes the species within the subtribe Laelinae of the Orchidaceae family. These orchids are commonly referred to as the Cattleya alliance. Volume I 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.

In this volume, Schomburgkia, Sophronitis, and other South American Genera are given. The description of each species is followed by extensive floral and botanical descriptions and photographs. It would have been nice to have AOS award references for more species.

There are 95 color photographs that cover all the genera. The photographs are of very high quality and in most cases show the diagnostic features of the species. The photographs of all the Barberia species are most enlightening. These very showy species are seldom seen and this is the first time I have seen pictures of all the species in one place.

Nearly all of the species descriptions are adequate for distinguishing them within the genera. The only exceptions are the Encyclia species.

The genus Encyclia has always confused me. Many of the species look very similar and are distinguished by subtle differences in the structure of the lip. In this volume, a large figure showing the flattened lip configuration is provided. This figure is helpful; however, the few Encyclia I tried to match to the 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 D.ressler and Pollard published in 1976 by the Asociacion Mexicana de Orquideologia. This book was also not as much help to me in the identification of my Encyclia species.

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

My only criticism of the book is that the common name used is the title for each species description and these scientific names 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...
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 does not account for temperatures at higher altitudes which clearly will not support plants which cannot withstand a freeze. He enunciates his 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 his tropical look encyclopedia.

The main body of Riffle’s book is the encyclopedic listing of nearly 2000 exotic plants. He describes 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 and form, textural qualities of foliage and bark, anatomical details of 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 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 landscapelists 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.

**Teresa K. Howe**
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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 borderlines of hardness.” A few pages later, he provides more detailed information that quickly lets the reader know that he will be covering perennials hardly in U.S.A. hardness 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, Planting Schemes, contains a wealth of information about using tender perennials in the landscape and in the interior garden. He covers bed design, carpet bedding, dot plants (plants that “give height and accent to the display”), plants associated and useful combinations, mixed planters and hanging baskets, Mediterranean gardens and exotic design that incorporate many tropical plants normally considered houseplants such as croton, cordyline, and dracaena.

The last 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. because of reference 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
question that besides their traditional culinary and/or medicinal properties a large number of herbs also have excellent ornamental qualities. The recognition and promotion of herbs as valuable ornamentals by a few pioneering herb growers is then well deserved.

The objective of this book is precisely to demonstrate gardeners and landscapers that most herbs are not only good foliage plants but also as 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 and 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 rockwork. The author describes these terms and gives the common and scientific name of herbs that would accommodate best to these landscape uses. The third and last 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 or more 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, hardiness, 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 portait 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-references 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 cannot 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 the 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 herb as an ornamental. In these paragraphs the author explains the best ways to exploit the ornamental qualities of the herb in the arrangement of a garden. These brief paragraphs are a condensation of many years of observation, testing, and study. This book will be valuable to herb growers, gardeners and ornamental horticulturists interested in exploring new possibilities in the designing 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 coauthors 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 text 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, or
canopy training may be necessary to flesh out areas of emphasis within a 
given course format. *Arboriculture* addresses basic concepts and tech-
niques to provide background for be-
ginning students while providing de-
tailed documentation and sources of 
information for more advanced stu-
dents and practitioners.

As a practitioner reference, the 
text organization is major strength. 
The table of contents is very direct in 
locating specific topics. The index is a 
pleasure, with boldface type cross-
referring the extensive glossary and 
graphics within the text. The compre-
hensive bibliographic format is un-
changed. Given that text citations are 
convenient, the bibliographic format 
certainly works if one is flipping back 
and forth from the text; however, 
future organization in terms of sub-
ject 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, fa-
miliar illustrations are recognizable from 
the many dog-eared copies which have 
established this text as a must for any 
practitioner’s library. West Coast read-
ers 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. How-
ever, the map on the inside cover is too 
small for usage and may not be as 
practical as other systems for practitio-
ners 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 seri-
ously 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 misues 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. 
Saddle River, New Jersey 07458. 613 
p. $88.00, hardcover. ISBN 0-13-
374703-4.

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: 
A subject index is included. There are 
32 small color plates inside the front and 
covers and more than 400 figures 
(black and white photographs, graphs, 
tables, and line drawings).

Part I covers 11 subjects, divided 
as chapters, of importance in floricultural 
crop production. The subjects 
covered include propagation, tempera-
ture, light, water, nutrition, media, 
plant growth regulation, pest 
management, postharvest, greenhouse 
construction and operations, marketing, 
and business management. This 
is an important section as the modern 
methods of growing any crop are discussed here. 
The text for each topic is 
documented by graphs and extensive 
tables, and each chapter brings a lot of 
important information together in one 
area. All chapters contain a good breadth of 
subject material although some have 
more depth than others. The authors’ 
overall goal of providing general pro-
duction information, however, is 
achieved.

Part II consists of specific floricultural 
crops, which include cut 
flowers, potted, annual, perennial, fo-
lage, and carnivorous plants, alpha-
etized by genus. Although a few 
crops are not covered in each genus, 
the authors have madetimely choices for 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, culti-
vation, propagation, flowering control 
and dormancy, temperature, light, 
water, carbon dioxide, nutrition, media, 
height control, spacing, pinching 
and disbudding, support, schedule, 
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 
and concise. Thanks to the US 
Current Status subheading in each 
introduction an international flavor, 
as well as a historical perspective, is 
often presented. For each crop, there 
iseinough information for students to 
create crop growth and production 
schedules. However, as the authors 
ote note, there are multiple ways of grow-
ing plants and those cited may only 
eone example of cultural method that 
work.

A bibliography concludes each 
crop section. The breadth of years of 
literature cited, 1930son, in some of 
the bibliographies is impressive as 
well as important historically. Litera-
ture was cited from trade magazines, 
specific crop manuals, and books as 
well as scientific articles. However, 
it is unclear how citations were selected 
for inclusion in some reference books 
which the authors consulted and then 
cited for one crop are not cited for a 
similar crop also covered in that book.

If for some reason a student is not 
aware that Chrysanthemum is longer 
the same genus, this is easily 
resolved by using the index. This in-
dex is very complete as it includes 
key phrases as well as keywords, common 
names and scientific names for dis-
ces as well as plants. Indices are very 
important for soon after a course is 
over a book is only a good or useful 
as its index!

This is currently the most com-
prehensive book available on floricultural 
crops and their production and 
so obvious choice for those teaching 
floriculture crop production and physi-
ology course(s). However, the cost 
($88) may cause a problem for stu-
dent at school which both 
combination courses such as greenhouse 
management and crop production as 
the general information sections in 
Part I are not detailed enough to 
supplant another textbook. Additionally, 
using a portion of this book for such 
courses may be a limited option, 
but none to be explored, as there is a 
hearty warning by the publisher that 
"No part of this book may be repro-
duced, in any form or by any means, 
without permission in writing from the 
publisher."

**Ellen T. Paparozzzi**
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This handy-sized book has chapters that focus on general information on tomato, plant characteristics and physiology, fruit characteristics, plant nutrition, field production in soil, greenhouse production, seed and seedling production, and pest identification and control. The information presented is well documented with an extensive reference section and an additional list of books and videos that contain tomato information. There is also a glossary of some terms used in the text, a summary of essential inorganic elements as they apply to tomato culture, and a summary of tomato plant physiological and production characteristics. Finally, all of this information is referenced in a useful index.

Tomato Plant Culture focuses on 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/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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Allspice is a dried unripe berry obtained from the Pimento dioica plant that may have antioxidant potential. The objective of this study was to determine the total phenolic, flavonoid content and antioxidant capacity of allspice using selected assays such as 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Potential (FRAP) and Trolox Equivalent Antioxidant Capacity (TEAC), Nitric Oxide (NO) and Oxygen Reducing Antioxidant Capacity (ORAC). Total phenolic and flavonoid contents of allspice were determined using both water and methanol extraction. A comparison of antioxidant activity Find many great new & used options and get the best deals for The Tropical Look: An Encyclopedia of Dramatic Landscape Plants. Riffle, Lee.# at the best online prices at eBay! Free delivery for many products! The Tropical Look: An Encyclopedia of Dramatic Landscape Plants. Riffle, Lee.# Condition: New. Creating the Tropical Look: Low-care tropicales for the Upper Gulf Coast of Texas. To enjoy lush, colorful foliage and dramatic floral displays, gardeners along the Upper Gulf Coast of Texas are lucky. They can add to their gardens tropical-looking plants that grow in temperate, subtropical and tropical climates. All plants described in this book are available locally and require no, little or manageable cold-weather protection. The USDA plant hardiness zones for the Upper Gulf Coast of Texas are generally recognized to be zones 9a and 9b. Zone 9a cold-weather temperatures are 20 to 25 degrees Fahrenheit; zone 9b, 25 to 30 degrees Fahrenheit.