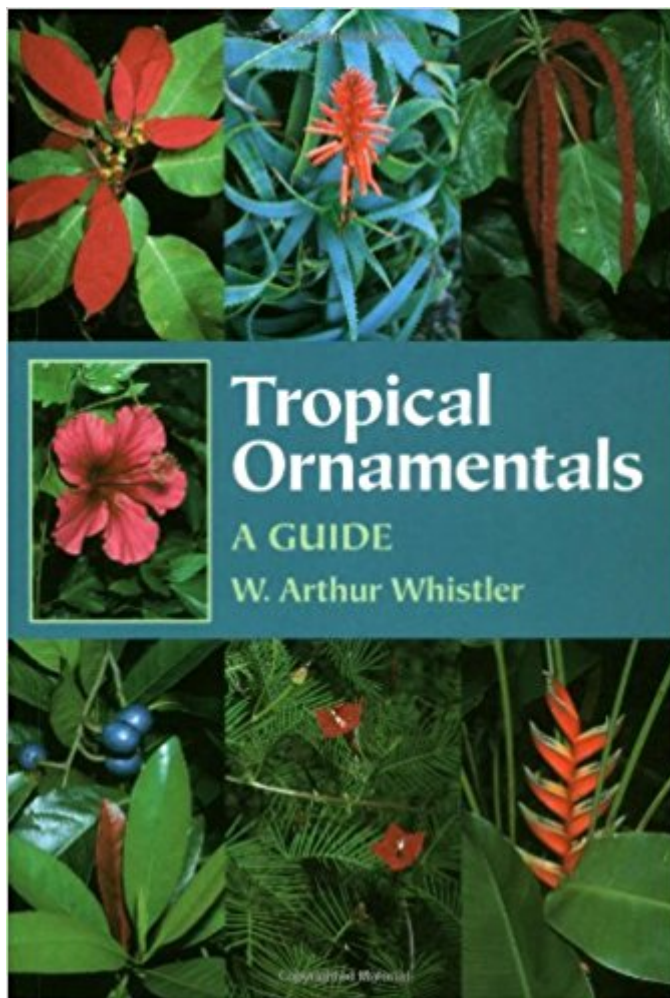


The book was found

Tropical Ornamentals : A Guide



Synopsis

This guide covers more than 400 of the most commonly cultivated ornamental plants found in the tropics, identified and beautifully photographed by an expert in tropical botany. The color photographs and accurate descriptions make this book ideal for identifying plants grown in the tropics or cultivated in greenhouses in temperate climates. The characteristics of habit, leaves, flowers, and fruit useful for distinguishing one plant from another are emphasized in the descriptions, which also include discussions of plant relationships, the correct scientific and common names, geographical ranges, any poisonous properties, and other useful and interesting information about each plant. In addition, each description includes information on propagation methods and ideal growing conditions, making it useful for gardeners in determining how and where to cultivate the plants.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Oh, there are books out there, and I probably have most of them, but Tropical Ornamentals: A Guide seemed like manna from heaven ... Add this book to your gardening library. -- Jan Kalanikai Hawaii Horticulture 20000918 What a bargain: succinct information on hundreds of plants cultivated as ornamentals in the Tropics, with more than 450 full-color close-up photographs showing flowers and foliage! HortIdeas 20000918 This book would find a welcome home on any gardener's bookshelves and make a perfect gift to a newcomer to South Florida. -- Susan Knorr Garden Views 20000905 This book should be on the shelf of all who love tropical plants. -- John E. Bryan

Gardening Newsletter 20000905 Lavishly illustrated. -- Stephanie Kendrick Honolulu Star-Bulletin 20001020 This is a place to find some of the most attractive plants we are likely to see in the tropical environment, as well as some of the biggest pests. -- Jan TenBruggencate Honolulu Advertiser 20000925 Fascinating reading. -- John Van de Water Newark Star-Ledger 20001105 No other book comes close to filling the niche that this book fills. -- Clear Englebert FungShway.com 20001107 On nearly every page there is a photograph with information about the genus and species to aid in identifying these plants. National Gardener 20001128 Whistler, an adjunct associate professor at the Lyon Arboretum in Honolulu, has worked with tropical plants for more than 30 years and his experience shows in this book. -- January Adams American Reference Books Annual 20010424 The photos are splendid This is an excellent reference on tropical plants in cultivation. -- Barney Lipscomb Sida, Contributions to Botany 20000426 "It is useful aid for those who wish to transform conservatory, sun-room or glazed porch into a conversation piece decorated with a collection of living holiday souvenirs." Hull Daily Mail 20010519 Extremely useful for identifying the plants most often found in tropical gardens. Florida Gardening 20011013 For more spice, Tropical Ornamentals covers unusual, as well as common, summer bloomers. -- Donna Williamson HortResources Newsletter 20040122

More than 400 notable tropical plants cultivated for their ornamental value are featured in this guide enhanced by beautiful photos.

An excellent reference book filled with helpful photos in color and plant information by a master researcher and authority on tropical plants. However, I was hoping for more comments on medicinal, culinary and industrial uses of the plants.

Filled with many photos, a heavy quality publication

This is a basic reference text for admirers of tropical plants, and was the inspiration for my *Ornamental Plants & Flowers of Tropical Mexico*. Limited to plants grown for their appearance rather than utility, and primarily grown in the tropical regions of the world, this reference guide includes more than 400 ornamentals. Photographs of many of the included plants provide detail, supplementing the informative text, which gives identifying descriptions of leaves, flowers, and fruit, if any, as well as basic cultivation and propagation advice. The book's usefulness for identifying plants would be enhanced, however, with full-size photos, in addition to the flower close-up shots.

The utility of the book is greatly aided by the index, which cross-references common names, scientific names, and alternative names for these lovely plants.

For the serious tropical gardener, this is one book you must not be without. The "Organization Of Information" section of this book I found to be very boring. I did however, immensely enjoy the rest of the book and would highly suggest it to anyone who grows a large majority of tropical plants. Some of the plants mentioned in the book such as Albizia Lebbeck, I had been unable to find any information on previously. I was quite surprised at the large number of plants mentioned that were not common. There were also some plants they touched on that I was completely unfamiliar with. I thought this was great! There are color photographs with each plant description and sometimes there is more than one photo showing various varieties of the plant. This is a real plus if you grow most everything from seeds or cuttings and have never seen these plants. There is a total of 458 photographs. Although each plant only receives a small section, the descriptions do include information such as flowers or fruit, propagation, leaves and plant type. It also gives the common name of the plant and the index allows you to reference each plant by scientific name or common name. Overall, I found it a highly useful book that will be one of the most used books I have. That's a very high compliment! The only thing that might have been made it better was to move the explanation section to the back! I cannot emphasize enough that this is one book you must have on your reference shelf!

I was very disappointed with the purchase of this book. Living on a tropical island I am surrounded by most, if not all of the plants in this guide. I was looking for a book to help me identify plants in my surroundings that I see on a day to day basis. While there are colour photographs with each plant description, it was difficult to recognise plants because the photos tended to focus mainly on the flowering part of the plant. This is especially frustrating when one wants to identify a tree or shrub. The Poinciana, (here it is called Flamboyant) is an unmistakable tree with flame red flowers and feathery leaves. The photo shows a close detail on the tree's flowers and leaves. I have never actually inspected the flowers of this tree up close, having only seen its distinctive shape and of course flame red colour in parks and along roadways. Now that I have seen them in this book, I notice that they closely resemble those of a shrub called Barbados Pride! This could lead to confusion with someone who is totally unfamiliar with either plant! The tree would be easier recognized if a picture of the tree itself was included. There is of course a magnificent photo of a Flamboyant on the back cover but I use this as only an example. No other tree or shrub is featured

this way. In short this book is completely useless to me in identifying plants. Everything looks familiar but I'm left with the feeling that I'm sure I've seen that plant somewhere but I don't know what it is:-)

This book should be a "must read" for anyone wanting to grow tropical plants. This was the most comprehensive book about the tropical plants that I have read. It truly covered most of the tropicals that I wanted to look up. Most impressive. Very systematic. Had good information on flowering periods and propagation techniques. More details on growing these plants could enhance this book even more. All in all a very good addition to my tropical plants collection.

Tropical Ornamentals is a wonderful book for all growers but it is even helpful for Hawaii residents. Especially useful is the cross reference for plant classifications and use of pictures to aid in identification.

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