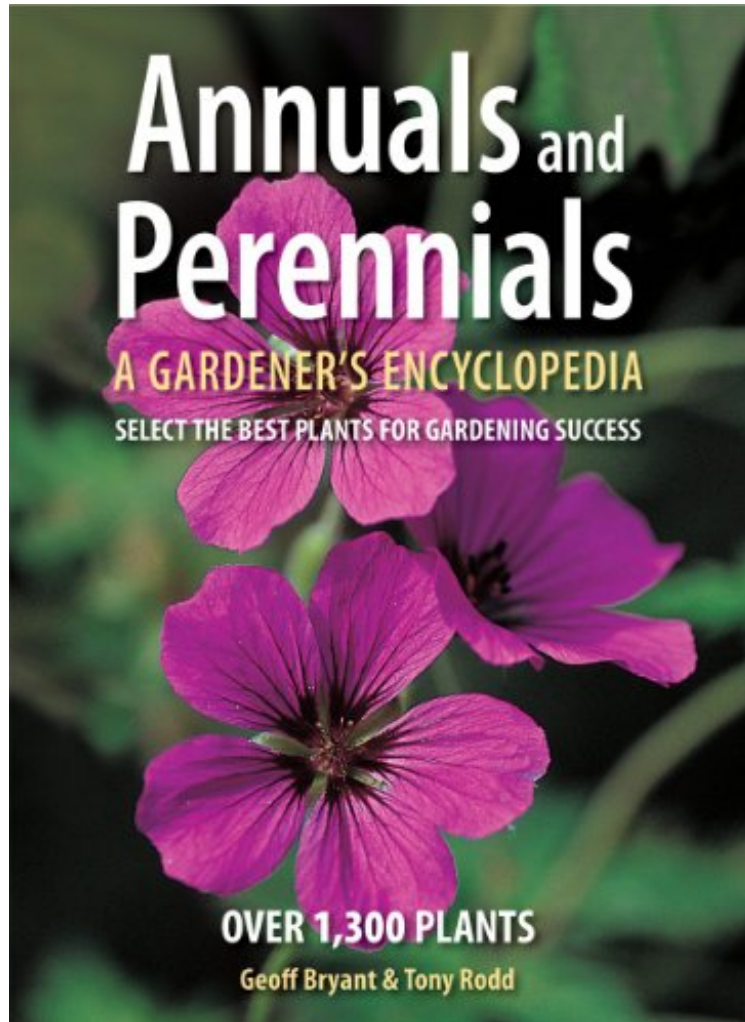


## Annuals and Perennials: A Gardener's Encyclopedia

*Geoff Bryant, Tony Rodd*

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**Geoff Bryant, Tony Rodd : Annuals and Perennials: A Gardener's Encyclopedia** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Annuals and Perennials: A Gardener's Encyclopedia:

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Service Book Lacks CoverageBy Andrew J. RochellsExcellent vendor service. The book, itself, lacks coverage of some basic garden perennials such as echinacea and actea. The absence of coverage surprised me.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This is an excellent reference for any gardener who wants a detailed encyclopedia at their disposal ...By D. FowlerI'm engaged with a seemingly never-ending battle with what to plant in my flower gardens. The plants I sometimes have selected for those directly abutting the foundation around the periphery of my house don't often fare well for an assortment of reasons. Harsh winters can often be brutal and my flowers simply don't survive. One other reason is that my selection's can be poor. Just because a plant is sold in my area doesn't mean it's in the proper zone or will do well in one of my gardens.

Things just don't work that way. I was quite pleased to find this encyclopedia because it not only is beautiful to browse, but also has an abundance of information gardeners of all sorts can use. The book is generously illustrated with full-color photographs that are delightfully appealing. One thing I did like is that this book isn't a "coffee table" tome, but is a portable one. I can take it with me to research plants that appeal to me, but may or not be feasible choices. For example, I chose and purchased several expensive lots of ivy, certain that my stone wall would eventually have a quaint cottage-like touch. I only have a few sprigs now because that particular ivy wasn't suitable for my area.

#### TYPES of Plants

included: Agapanthus Anemones Asters Begonias Buttercups Carnations Chrysanthemums Clivias Clover Daisies Delphiniums Forget me-

nots Foxgloves Geraniums Helianthus Hibiscus Impatiens Irises Lilies Marigolds Peonies Petunias Poppies Primroses Primulas Verbena lilies Zinnias (And numerous other varieties, more than 1,300 plants in all) Each alphabetically listed species entry may or may not be accompanied by a photograph. Each one does have a place of origin, a hardiness zone (1-12), name or names the plant may have once gone by, its family name, forms, common name, and information on cultivation. There are also symbols that tell if it has a recommended Flora Award, its spread, height, sun requirements, and hardiness. There is a world hardiness zone that describes the zones and shows a map. There is an amazing forty-four page chart that "features at-a-glance information for every species or hybrid with an individual entry" covered in these pages. It covers everything from the type of plant to fifteen categories of critical information. For example, we can learn that *Aechmea chantinii* is 40 inches (100 cm) in height, can spread up to 20 inches (50 cm), is a perennial, prefers a warm or tropical climate, is a bromeliad, has showy flowers (not scented), should be planted in the spring, flowers in the summer, can be grown in a pot or a tub, and grows in heavy shade. This book also has an excellent index. If you need a book that will help you select your annuals and perennials, this is definitely one book you should add to your list! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great color photos. By GEORGE E MILLER Great gardening reference with helpful hints. I saved time shopping at the garden shop. Fragrance of plants could be more extensive

How to choose the best from over 1,300 annuals and perennials. The choice of annuals and perennials at any nursery is overwhelming, to say the least. *Annuals and Perennials* contains all the information needed to make the right choice from the enormous number of plants available. With its compact and easy-to-use format, the book is perfect to take along to the nursery. Using the comprehensive plant-selection tables, gardeners can see at a glance the most important characteristics of more than 1,300 annuals and perennials, helping them make the best choice for their garden's appearance and cultivation requirements. The first part of *Annuals and Perennials* is the plant tables, which are organized by species name and list the plant's characteristics. These are: Height and spread Perennial, biennial or annual Full sun, half-sun, heavy shade Cool, warm-temperate, subtropical or tropical Flowering and planting season Showy foliage, showy flowers, scented flowers Frost tolerance Bromeliad, carnivorous, gesneriad or none of these Suitability to container planting Indoor use Having chosen a plant from the table, the gardener then turns to the book's second part, which describes the more than 1,300 species, cultivars and hybrids in greater detail. This includes growing zones and common names, as well as the plants' origins, color variations, growth habit (whether, for example, the plant spreads rapidly), propagation techniques, recommended uses, problem parasites or diseases, and extra cultivation notes. Color photographs illustrate a select number of plants. Perennials and annuals play an important role in the garden. They can provide season-long, even yearlong, greenery and blooms. With *Annuals and Perennials*, any gardener will be able to choose the right plant for the right place--and that is the key to a beautiful and successful garden.

The authors and publisher should be congratulated for their brilliant idea of dividing this plant encyclopedia into two volumes, according to the types of plants. The handy size and plastic cover of the books make them ideal for fieldwork, as well as indoor research. (National Garden Clubs, Inc.) A compact, sturdy encyclopedia that is easy to use for plant lookup and identification.... The coverage is comprehensive; the book includes plants from all over the world.... This well-designed and practical book deserves a green thumbs-up for public libraries and most gardeners. (Deborah Broocker Library Journal 2011-11-01) This is an encyclopedia of annuals and perennials with the gardener in mind.... Each page is bursting with beautiful photographs. (Booklist 2012-02-01) This is an encyclopedia of annuals and perennials with the gardener in mind.... Each page is bursting with beautiful photographs. (Book News 2012-02-01) This sturdy but compact handbook will help gardeners select outstanding flowers for every spot... More than 500 terrific color photographs add interest and help in visualizing what the plant will look like in your garden... Sturdy enough to take to the nursery. (Susan C. Awe American Reference Books Annual 2012 2012-04-01) About the Author Tony Rodd is a former Horticultural Botanist at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, Australia. He has worked as a freelance consultant for the last 25 years, specializing in plant identification, as well as writing about plants, photographing them, and acting as editorial consultant for reference books. Geoff Bryant is a New Zealand-based horticultural writer and photographer and was a plant propagator and nurseryman for some 10 years. He has written 11 books, including several widely sold plant propagation handbooks, as well as numerous magazine articles illustrated

with his own photographs.